

CATHARINE H. SIEMENS

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Educational Technology | Elementary & Middle School | Language Arts & Social Studies

Excellence-driven and innovative educator with 5+ years' teaching experience and a proven track record of using technology to teach and develop students from diverse cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. Drives student success through integrated educational technology, differentiated instruction, and creative methods of motivation. Thrives on the continuously evolving nature of technology in the classroom and is fiercely committed to student development and success. Collaborates effectively with all levels of staff, parents, and the community.

**21st Century Learning Skills | Technology Integration | Gamification | Adaptive Technology
Curriculum Development | Classroom Management | Differentiated Instruction | Cooperative Learning
Leadership | Student Development | Vertical & Horizontal Teaming | Performance Assessment**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Frisco Independent School District, Frisco, TX

2014; June 2018 – Present

One of the fastest growing districts in the nation with over 60,000 students and ranked among the best districts in the area for education by the Dallas Morning News.

SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM WRITER, June 2019

- Hired/selected to work collaboratively with a corps of professionals to develop and write new Integrated Language Arts curriculum for Frisco ISD based on analysis of the new Texas state standards

INTEGRATED LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER, Pioneer Heritage Middle School, August 2018 – Present

Teach 6th-grade students reading comprehension, writing, grammar, and vocabulary skills within thematic units. Strong focus on integration of technology in the classroom, including Google tools, Bulb ePortfolios, Anchor Podcasts, and NewsELA. Serve as Academic Pentathlon Coach.

- Champion gamification of lesson plans whenever possible; gamify lessons to include digital breakouts, online scavenger hunts, and other innovative projects
 - Project: During the first week of school, had students use Flipgrid to record a short introductory message to the teacher including an interesting fact about themselves; studied this to immediately get to know each student and develop a rapport with them
 - Project: Assigned students to create a collaborative change-over-time project, requiring online research, and embedding student-created Chatterpix videos to appear as if photo images were giving the presentation to the class rather than the students
 - Project: Created a Digital Breakout using Google Drive apps including Forms, Drawings, and Sites, adding the Critical Thinking component of the 4Cs of 21st Century skills
- Utilize the Read 180 *Scholastic Reading Inventory* program (adaptive technology for data analysis) to automate the scoring process for reading level tests, understand individual student trends in performance assessments, and modify reading materials in order to support struggling students and challenge higher-achieving students
- Develop student communication by emphasizing collaboration and integrating technology (Google Suite, Google Apps, Google Classroom, Google Slides) in order to facilitate online collaboration in addition to in-person collaboration
- Perform data interpretation and analysis; use technologies to analyze student performance and create targeted instruction to address progress issues and support student success
- Design rigorous lesson plans to meet student needs; deliver instructional activities which utilize appropriate curriculum resources and incorporate district standards

ILA Teacher of the Month (nominated by students and colleagues), September 2018.

5C Badges Award – Use of Educational Technology within the Classroom, November 2018.

5C Badges Award – Personal Chromebook Recipient, November 2018.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER, March 2014 – May 2014

Metro Christian Academy, Tulsa, OK

August 2015 – May 2018

College-preparatory institution ranked among the best college preparatory private schools in the state, and noted for academic success and innovative approaches to learning.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER

Taught 6th grade English, 7th grade English and Literature, and 8th grade American Studies. Facilitated classroom activities which engaged students through gamification and incorporating relevant technology.

- Rewrote the 6th and 7th grade English curriculum to include project-based, thematic units that integrated technology and horizontally aligned with Social Studies units
- Incorporated Collaborative Learning Strategies, Socratic Seminars, and whole-group simulations
- Served as a New Teacher Mentor for a 6th grade Literature teacher and 7th grade class sponsor
- Consistently created a positive educational climate and facilitated classroom activities which engaged students by utilizing differentiated instruction and appropriate curriculum resources

William Penn Elementary School, Tulsa, OK

August 2014 – May 2015

A diverse, Title 1 school with 300 students located in an urban public school district serving approximately 36,000 students.

FOURTH GRADE TEACHER

Taught a self-contained class that met a diversity of needs including Special Education inclusion, 504 students, retention students, English as a Second Language students, students on Behavior Intervention Plans, and advanced students.

- Use of adaptive educational technologies such as Scholastic Read 180 to remediate and extend learning.
- Analyzed student data in order to differentiate and deliver targeted instruction.

Southwood Learning Center, College Station, TX

Spring 2012 – Fall 2014

PRESCHOOL TEACHER

TECHNOLOGIES & METHODOLOGIES

- Technologies: Interactive Notebooks, Google tools, ePortfolios and Podcasts, NewsELA, Flipgrid, Read 180, Read 180 Scholastic Reading Inventory, Canvas
- Methodologies: Socratic Seminars, Six plus one traits of writing, Small Groups/centers, student data analysis and differentiation, Cooperative Learning Strategies, Project-Based Learning

EDUCATION

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Graduation: May 2014

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES, Middle Grades 4-8 Language Arts / Social Studies

- Graduation Honors: Cum Laude, Dean's Honor Roll
- Field Experience: **Cobb Middle School**, Frisco, TX, *STUDENT TEACHER*

CERTIFICATIONS

- **English Language Arts and Reading/Social Studies Grades (4-8)**
- **Generalist Grades (EC-6)**
- **English as a Second Language Supplemental Grades (EC-8)**