

SARA MARTINSON

MISSION AND BELIEFS

My mission as a school leader is to create a positive and dynamic school culture in which all stakeholders focus unwaveringly on student success. As a leader, it is my responsibility to arrive each day with a positive attitude and a willingness to learn, teach, and foster relationships.

My mission as a teacher is to build positive relationships with my students, which will in turn will enable me to encourage curiosity and creativity, challenge assumptions and beliefs, and inspire students to reach their full potential as learners.

I believe all students and staff should feel safe, respected, and valued.

I believe every person brings unique and valuable perspectives to a school.

I believe in curiosity and resilience, discovery and persistence, dedication and teamwork.

I believe in kids.

EXPERIENCE

English Teacher

2005 - Present

Minnetonka High School

Minnetonka, MN

- Build positive relationships with students based on mutual respect and common goals
- Design and implement secondary language arts curriculum for students in grades 9-12 with a wide range of academic needs
- Teach students grades 9-12, including honors-level, IB Higher Level Literature, and Advanced Placement Language and Composition
- Collaborate with PLC and grade-level colleagues to enrich students' classroom experience and increase learning
- Integrate technology to enhance engagement, collaboration, and student achievement
- Provide guidance and feedback as a supervising teacher and new teacher mentor

English Department Co-Chair

2012 - Present

Minnetonka High School

Minnetonka, MN

- Serve on district committee to research, develop, and propose new building and district leadership structure and responsibilities (2018-2019)
- Maintain highly functioning department through clear communication and effective collaboration, keeping the focus on students' needs
- Provide leadership for ensuring a guaranteed and viable curriculum at all grades, including alignment, curriculum selection, assessment practices, and curriculum writing
- Participate in interview and recommendation process for teaching candidates
- Develop and build English department schedule for 28 full-time teachers
- Facilitate challenging conversations with parents, colleagues, and students
- Planned, coordinated, and organized E-12 curriculum review and recommendations, 2012-2014

Teacher on Special Assignment for Technology Integration

2014 - 2017 Minnetonka High School Minnetonka, MN

- Develop and implement professional development model for technology growth
- Design and facilitate technology training plan for first- and second-year teachers
- Work with teachers, individually and in teams, to develop technology integration strategies that increase engagement and achievement in the classroom
- Organize and facilitate staff roundtables, technology mini-sessions, and other staff development sessions
- Coordinate and implement iPad collection and distribution plan for three grade levels
- Encourage teachers to utilize technology, build confidence, and increase efficiency

EDUCATION

Administrative Licensure PK-12

2015 University of Minnesota Minneapolis, MN

Master of Arts in Teaching, Communication Arts and Literature 5-12

2005 University of St. Thomas St. Paul, MN

Bachelor of Arts, English Literature

1991 University of Minnesota Minneapolis, MN

OTHER TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS

West Metro Leadership Academy (2018-2019)

AP Institute Language and Composition (2012, 2017, 2019)

IB Training and Workshop, ATL (2017)

IB Training, DP Language A (2006, 2016, 2019)

Schoology NEXT Conference (2015, 2016)

Technology and Information Education Services (TIES) Conference (2015, 2016)

International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Conference (2014, 2015, 2016)

Google Institute (2015)

Symposium of Women Educational Leaders (2015)

Insights Discovery Training (2014)

IB Workshop, DP Language A (2011, 2012)

Pre AP Training (2016)