

Tami L. Nelson
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Dear Administrator,

I am very interested in teaching music in your school district. I have been fortunate in my sixteen years of teaching to gain experience teaching elementary classroom music, 7th grade general music and Orchestra from Kindergarten through twelfth grade. This experience has proven to me the importance and benefits of spiral and cooperative teaching through all grade levels.

My objective in the classroom is to effectively create lessons for varied learning styles, create a positive and safe environment that is child-centered, motivate and foster confidence and mostly to share my enjoyment of music. For students who are struggling, I offer tutoring before or after school to ensure students are achieving to their potential. I initiated an advanced chamber ensemble for above-grade level students at Benton Middle School with remarkable success. This ensemble performed at District IX Assessment performing grade three and four and earned Superior Ratings. I have formed fiddle/folk ensembles that perform at school and community events. Maintaining a positive attitude in the classroom proves to keep students attentive as active on-task students who are then learning students. I involve students in the planning and selection process of our music so that they feel a sense of ownership and are then more committed in the ensemble's success. My involvement in musical events outside of the classroom includes; pit orchestra director and performer, assistant musical director, Solo & Ensemble Festival chairperson, District IX Regional and All-County chair/co-chairperson and MNosta Festival chairperson. Managing and/or participating in these events has augmented my organizational skills in long-term planning and execution. Collaboration with colleagues is vital to the program's success and fosters common goals. At Benton Middle School I was department lead for three years managing all band and orchestra instrument inventory and repair documentation as well as cooperating communication between the music areas.

My experience as a public-school music teacher, private music tutor as well as a professional and community musician has nurtured my passion and personal commitment to dedicate my teaching techniques in a variety of methods. I am a dedicated teacher who cultivates confidence, creativity, motivation and a sense of belonging for my students. I strive to be my best for my students every day. Teaching music is exhilarating and I would love to be an integral part of maintaining a strong music program in your school district.

Thank you for your consideration,

Tami L. Nelson