# ERIKA CLAIRE JOHNSON

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## PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVE

To obtain a French teaching position or an elementary teaching position and the opportunity to apply my diverse international teaching experiences to elementary or middle school students in the United States. I encourage creativity and responsibility in my classroom, helping to create life long learners and accountable, caring leaders.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

# **Ecole Elémentaire Marcel Pagnol,** Bouillargues, France

October, 2012 – April 2013

English Language Instructor

- Taught conversational English to students in grades first fifth and increased written and oral skills.
- Educated French students and improved their knowledge of American culture and holiday traditions through songs, recipes, and activities.
- Collaborated and formed professional relationships with non-English speaking faculty to ensure that all students were capable of learning English.
- Created an English curriculum to be utilized by future English Assistants.
- Worked with private tutors to deepen my speaking, listening, vocabulary, and writing skills in French.

# Mazapan School, La Ceiba, Honduras

July 2010 – June 2012

4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

- Planned and implemented creative lessons that required higher order thinking skills and cooperative learning allowing students to think more abstractly.
- Created centers for core subjects without a curriculum, allowing students more opportunities for learning and growth.
- Instructed small reading groups to all students, increasing reading levels from below basic to on grade level.
- Taught U.S. geography to Honduran students using virtual field trips and simulations, elevating social studies test scores from below basic to eighth grade level as evident through standardized testing.
- Educated students through unique classroom activities such as skyping with world-renowned author Avi, establishing pen pals with other fourth grade classes in the U.S., and taking field trips to other cities.
- Designed and painted an Earth Day mural with students to showcase their understanding to the entire school of how necessary it is to take care of our planet.

# Woodlawn Community School, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, Illinois

August 2009 – May 2010

Teacher Intern

- Planned and taught science lessons using hands-on habitat boxes which furthered student understanding of natural biomes
- Co-created a writing blog for students which allowed them to showcase their work while also increasing their awareness of ways to publish writing.
- Co-founded a language club which introduced students to French and Spanish language and culture.

### **EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION**

## Provisional Teaching Certificate – Michigan

June 2010

Elementary Education, History (6-8), French (pending)

# Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

June 2010

Graduate Masters Hours, 9 Credits General Elementary Education

## Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

May 2009

Undergraduate Student

Major: Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education

Minors: French & History

## **COMMITTEES & EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

## 2011 – 2012: School-wide Recess Policy

• Created and implemented recess and playground rules to be used by all elementary school teachers.

#### 2010 - 2012: Soccer Coach

• Coached soccer for elementary students teaching them teamwork, basic soccer skills, and sportsmanship.

## 2010 - 2011: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Evaluation Committee

• Participated in SACS review and school accreditation process.

# 2010 – 2011: Teacher Evaluation Rubric

• Edited and revised end of the year Teacher Evaluation Rubric to be used by the Elementary School.

# **ACHIEVEMENTS & SPECIAL SKILLS**

## Advanced French Skills, Basic Conversational Spanish

#### Summer Live Abroad - NîMES, FRANCE

*May 2010 – July 2010* 

- Lived with a host family and attended Rencontre Internationale for individual and group French lessons.
- Learned how to cook traditional French foods and traveled throughout France.

### Semester Study Abroad - MONTPELLIER, FRANCE

*January 2007 – June 2007* 

- Lived with a host family and attended l'Université Paul Valéry.
- Studied a variety of courses in French to improve my speaking skills and enhance my French minor.

Technology in Teaching: Proficient in DYMO Mimio Interactive Teaching Technologies - iMovie, - Skype

Member of Kappa Delta Pi (International Honors Society in Education)

April 2008 – Present

### Member of Delta Gamma Fraternity

September 2005 – Present

- Vice President: Social Standards (2008)
- Director of Anchor Splash (2007)
- Director of Alumnae Relations (2006)

### REFERENCES & LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

### **English references:**

Mrs. Martha Counsil (Mazapan School Superintendent) – martha.counsil@dole.com - (country code 504) 2443-2716

Mrs. Donna Dixon (Mazapan School Principal) - donnadixon 1@hotmail.com - (813) 319 -3757

Mrs. Ramona D. Lindsey (Mentor Teacher) – rlindseyinfo@gmail.com - (502) 554 -5609

#### French references:

Madame Anita Lainel (director) – <u>ce.0301407s@ac-montpellier.fr</u>

Madame Sylvie Santanach (teacher) – sylvie.santanach@gmail.com

Madame Elisabeth Sagné (teacher) – <u>patrick.sagné@wanadoo.fr</u>

English and French reference letters are available upon request.