DR. PAUL VISKANTA

Paul.Viskanta@du.edu   Portfolio: http://portfolio.du.edu/Paul.Viskanta

EXPERIENCE

Boulder Valley School District   Substitute
March 2018 – Present

- Day to day substitute in a variety of school environments with various student body demographics
- Experience maintaining classroom flow and management in absence of teacher

Crerry Creek School District   Substitute
December 2017 – Present

- Day to day substitute in a variety of school environments with various student body demographics
- Experience maintaining classroom flow and management in absence of teacher

New Open World Academy at Robert F. Kennedy Schools, Los Angeles, CA   English Teacher
August 2015 – August 2017

- Taught ELD Class levels 3 & 4 grades 7-11 with goals to reclassify students per CA State Standards
- Targeted research based instruction for English Language Learners in English Language Curriculum
- Use SRI reading data from previous grades to drive interventions and support
- Developed 8th grade curriculum from Common Core State Standards
- Enhanced teaching focus to better serve student demographic
- Executed Advisory Curriculum for 7th grade students
- Incorporated Writing Workshop protocol for 8th grade Language arts classes, including regular use of mini-conferencing
- Upskilled - Acquired competency and understanding of middle school learning development, especially with 8th grade
- Adapted curriculum for block scheduling
- Initiated use of Mindfulness techniques to support student success and discipline, in addition to supporting social emotional skills
- Collaborated with existing staff in adopting schoolwide best practices
- Completed Trauma Sensitive Schools Training through Los Angeles Education Partnership
- Created elective "Global World" course focusing on social justice for 6th grade
- Effectively managed middle school discipline with consistent progressive discipline policy with minimal referrals

-professional experience continues-

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EDUCATION

Denver University, Ed.D. Program in Curriculum and Instruction - Degree Awarded November 2021
New York University, Master of Fine Arts, Liberal Studies (English/Philosophy Concentration)
Cal State Los Angeles, Teaching Credential Program
Loyola Marymount University, Bachelor of Arts, English

EXPERIENCE

PLEASE SEE COVER SHEET FOR CURRENT EXPERIENCE

DANIEL PEARL JOURNALISM MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL, Van Nuys, CA   English Chair
September 2009 – June 2015

- Chaired WASC Leadership Team which included writing first full report for school, receiving 6-year accreditation
- Established English Department procedures and foundational documents for new school
- Proposed, instituted and trained staff in Turnitin online writing and originality (plagiarism) tool
- Developed, instituted and managed core curriculum list
- Instituted school-wide common writing vocabulary
- Advised Principal regarding class offerings
- Developed student recommendation process for AP classes

DANIEL PEARL MAGNET at BIRMINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL, Van Nuys, CA   English Teacher
September 2005 – September 2009

- Selected to teach AP® Language and AP® Literature classes, attended training and created approved syllabi for both classes
- Yearly production of published student book of writing, taught classes professional publication process
- Member of "Safe and Civil Schools" Committee for school representing Magnet, liaison to teachers
- Use of Turnitin® both as a learning device and plagiarism prevention tool
- Strengthened use of socratic seminars to foster greater critical thinking and discussion skills
- Utilized Wordpress™ platform to strengthen communication with students and parents, including daily agenda email to students

J. FRANCIS POLYTECHNIC H.S., Sun Valley, CA   EnglishTeacher
September 2001 – June 2005

- Appointed for Grade 9 Academy to retain struggling students
- Experienced with block scheduling
- Coordinator for district performance assessment essay exam
- Active instructor in programs to raise test scores
- Grade 10 English instructor
- Used differentiated and varied learning techniques to promote student success
- Strong communication and collaboration with other staff and students
- Supported students in managing B-Track schedule

MONTEBELLO HIGH SCHOOL, Montebello, CA   English Teacher - Creative Writing
October 1994 - June 1995

- Writing coach for 5 classes of 35 students
- Produced anthology of student work
- Facilitated idea generation through varied and targeted writing exercises
- Directed rewriting process
- Trained students to use computers and word processing software with short targeted lessons

-professional experience continues-

professional and publishing industry experience

TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Torrance, CA   Substitute Teacher
October 1993 – October 1994

- Day to day substitute in a variety of school environments with various student body demographics
- Experience maintaining classroom flow and management in absence of teacher
- Adapted and instituted diverse curriculum materials and teacher standards

PUBLISHING EXPERIENCE

REVOLUTION MAGAZINE, San Francisco, CA   Editorial – Contract
January 2000 – February 2000

- Wrote record reviews and articles
- Generated preliminary research and writing for feature articles
- Fact checked and edited articles for accuracy

A CLEAN WELL LIGHTED PLACE, San Francisco, CA   Assistant Promotions Coordinator
July 1999 - November 1999

- Wrote and produced newsletter copy from promotional materials
- Wrote and produced press releases about upcoming store events
- Event management: hosted and presented author readings and lectures
- Community building: maintained databases of community organizations and potential audiences

SF INTERACTIVE, San Francisco, CA   Project Management
February 1999 - April 1999

- Advised and consulted regarding improvements to existing workflow procedures
- Departmental resource management: recorded staff commitments hourly and per project

THINK NEW IDEAS, Los Angeles, CA   Project Management
September 1997 - October 1998

- Extensive knowledge of online advertising technologies, especially banner production
- Liaison to copywriters and design team building campaign messaging
- Production management: scheduled timelines, managing creative and account team communication
- Drafted banner production specifications: pixel size, file size, technologies necessary for production

BUZZ ONLINE, Los Angeles, CA   Website Manager
June 1996 - April 1997

- Wrote and produced all marketing materials, including sales team handbook
- Staff writer for both online and print editions of slick L.A.-based city magazine
- Editorially reviewed all content on a weekly basis
- Directed graphic and navigational redesign of site
- Updated content on tight deadlines

PEOPLE MAGAZINE, Los Angeles, CA   Editorial Assistant
January 1996 - March 1996

- Facilitated multi-level editing process
- Contributed research to writers and reporters for stories originating in L.A. bureau
- Responsible for communication between office of news director and correspondents

BUZZ MAGAZINE, Los Angeles, CA   Editorial Assistant
January 1996 - June 1996

- Writer for *Buzz Bets* section of magazine, writing short 100 word features
- Fact-checked, researched and proofread feature articles focusing on politics and culture
- Contributor to article pitch process
- Programmed magazine to HTML for web site

COMPUTER EXPERIENCE

HTML, Wordpress, Moodle, Microsoft Office, Microsoft Project, Quark Express, among others.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

International Reading Association
National Council of Teachers of English
American Federation of Teachers
California Association of Teachers of English

OTHER NOTABLES

Writing study with Ms. Natalie Goldberg, 2004
Writing workshop with Luis Alfaro
WASC Accreditation Preparation, 1995, 2001, 2013

CONFERENCES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Presenter at Literacy Leaders Conference on Turnitin, 2004
How to Handle the Hard to Handle

Excellent references available upon request

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Instituted, Managed and Trained teachers in Turnitin online writing program
    - Advocated and brought program to DPMHS
    - Trained English Dept. teachers and all staff in use of program
    - Educated School Staff Regarding Plagiarism Issues and Topics
    - Managed selection of essay writing vocabulary to be used across all disciplines

- Managed Hiring Process for Librarian/English Teachers
    - Recruited candidates, scheduled interviews and managed review process for more than six hired teachers during six year period
    - Supported and guided newly hired teachers informing them of English Department vision and goals, supported teachers communicating with administration and other faculty.
    - Provided teachers with necessary materials

- SpringBoard® Textbook Program
    - College Board SpringBoard® advocate, initiated adoption
    - Led English Department in Common Core implementation with text aligned to Common Core and Pre-AP® Curriculum during first year of Common Core implementation
    - Scheduled teacher training and managed conversations about requirements necessary for adoption
    - Supported teachers in learning about text and supporting software

- Created and Managed AP® Recommendation Process for Students in English Department
    - Increased parent and student knowledge about AP® Course requirements and philosophy
    - Promoted all access policy
    - Point of informational communication for teachers and student

- Implemented Preliminary Core Reading List Selections across all grades
    - Advocated for increase in novel resources

- Created "English Department Technology Introduction"
    - Allows English teachers to introduce fundamentals necessary to the use of technology not only for English Department and Turnitin but across all disciplines