

# Career Center

## TEACHER RESUME & COVER LETTER GUIDE



### Career Center

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[westfield.ma.edu/careercenter](http://westfield.ma.edu/careercenter)

Westfield  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
Founded 1838

# TYPES OF RESUMES

Think of a resume as a billboard and you have 30 seconds to deliver your message:

*What do you want an employer to know about you?  
How will you market your experience and skills?*

Paint a picture for the prospective employer demonstrating the scope of your current and past responsibilities and achievements. What do you want to emphasize? Use one of the two following formats to help get you started.

## Chronological

A chronological resume organizes information by jobs/positions/experiences in *reverse chronological* order, with the most recent experiences first. It is the most commonly used format and easiest to write.

**This resume format works well when:**

- Your job history shows growth and development
- You are staying in the same field or gaining your first entry level position
- You have a steady history of employment related to the position you are seeking
- You are applying in traditional fields of work such as teaching

## Functional

A functional (or skills based) resume organizes information into *functional* groupings of skills or accomplishments. This format is commonly used for candidates with more experience who are changing career fields.

**This resume format works well when:**

- You want to demonstrate a clear relationship between your skills listed and the position you are seeking more than your work history
- Your specific jobs or internships are not easily related to the position you are seeking
- You have gaps in your employment history
- You are changing career paths

## QUICK TIPS FOR RESUME BUILDING

- The teaching resume can be two pages if all relevant information.
- Font type should be professional (Times New Roman, Calibri, Garamond, etc). Keep font size at 11 or 12.
- Page margins should be maximum of 1" all around or minimum of .7".
- Avoid the use of pronouns and complete sentences (start each descriptive phrases with action verbs).
- Use past tense when describing past experiences and present tense for present experiences.
- Include skills and qualifications relevant to that position. Each resume should be tailored to the job for which you are applying. Generic resumes are not as effective.
- Always include accurate information. Never misrepresent yourself!
- Keep your resume neat, organized and professional. Remain consistent with font type, format and the overall style. Appearance matters!
- Make sure the resume and the cover letter are free of errors. Proofread and have others proofread too.
- Give each of your references a copy of your resume and be sure to ask them to serve as a reference before listing them on your reference page.
- Don't fold, photocopy or staple your resume. Buy 8 ½ x 11" envelopes and type address labels.
- Print your resume and cover letter on white or ivory resume paper (Found at any office supply store).
- Continually update your resume to reflect new skills and experiences.
- Upload your resume into the Career Center's online job database, Career Connections: [www.westfield.ma.edu/careercenter](http://www.westfield.ma.edu/careercenter). This will allow you to sign up for on-campus interviews, apply for jobs and safely store your resume in our system.



## FREQUENTLY USED CATEGORY HEADINGS

ACHIEVEMENTS	EXPERIENCE	RELATED ACTIVITIES
ACTIVITIES	HONORS	RELATED COURSEWORK
ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE	INTERNSHIPS	RELATED EXPERIENCE
AWARDS	LANGUAGE SKILLS	RELEVANT EXPERIENCE
CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT	LICENSURE	SKILLS
CERTIFICATIONS	MEMBERSHIPS	SPECIAL TRAINING
COACHING EXPERIENCE	MILITARY SERVICE	SUMMARY OF
COLLEGIATE ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVE	QUALIFICATIONS
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	PRESENTATIONS	TEACHING EXPERIENCE
COMPUTER SKILLS	PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS	VOLUNTEER WORK
CONFERENCES ATTENDED	PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	WORK HISTORY
EDUCATION	PROFESSIONAL PROFILE	
EMPLOYMENT	PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY	

## EFFECTIVE SENTENCE OPENERS

achieved	corresponded	fostered	modified	restored
acted	counseled	furnished	motivated	retrieved
adapted	created	handled	negotiated	restructured
added	critiqued	helped	notified	revamped
addressed	cultivated	hired	observed	reviewed
administered	dealt with	identified	obtained	revised
advised	decided	illustrated	opened	selected
advocated	delivered	implemented	operated	showed
analyzed	demonstrated	improved	organized	simulated
applied	designed	incorporated	originated	solved
approved	determined	increased	outlined	sorted
arranged	developed	influenced	overhauled	started
assembled	devised	initiated	oversaw	streamlined
assisted	directed	interviewed	persuaded	strengthened
attended	discovered	instituted	planned	studied
balanced	distributed	introduced	prepared	supervised
built	drafted	instructed	prescribed	supplied
captivated	edited	integrated	presented	supported
changed	employed	invested	processed	tabulated
charted	encouraged	investigated	produced	tailored
clarified	enforced	judged	published	taught
coached	enhanced	launched	purchased	tracked
collaborated	enlisted	learned	received	trained
compared	ensured	lectured	recorded	transferred
complied	equipped	led	recruited	translated
completed	established	listed	reduced	transported
composed	evaluated	located	refined	undertook
condensed	examined	managed	related	updated
controlled	experienced	measured	reorganized	upgraded
conveyed	expanded	merged	represented	utilized
coordinated	facilitated	minimized	researched	worked
corrected	finalized	modernized	responded	wrote

## Jennifer Smith

*School Address:* Westfield State University, 577 Western Ave., Box # 333, Westfield, MA 01086

*Permanent Address:* 1234 Frank Avenue, Natick, MA 01760

413-572-5206 • jsmith5206@westfield.ma.edu

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### EDUCATION

**Westfield State University**, Westfield, MA

Bachelor of Science in Education, May 2016

*Specialization:* English and Reading

### LICENSURE

Elementary Education, 1-6 (In Progress)

- Passed all sections of MA Tests for Educator Licensure
- SEI Endorsement

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Edward Ellington Elementary School**, Springfield, MA

Spring 2016

Third Grade Practicum

- Demonstrated ability to teach in a multicultural third grade class of 28 students
- Developed and taught lessons in all curriculum areas with whole class, small groups, and cooperative groups
- Assessed special needs; Devised and instituted individualized academic and behavioral intervention programs for students
- Designed and implemented a 5 week unit on nutrition and integrated a variety of skills
- Participated in curriculum planning, faculty meetings, and parent conferences

**Kensington Avenue Magnet School**, Springfield, MA

Fall 2015

First Grade Pre-Practicum

- Aided a bilingual teacher in a first grade inclusion classroom
- Designed and implemented lessons that incorporated the needs of different levels of English language learners
- Attended a Responsive Classroom seminar and applied the philosophy in practice
- Introduced reading and writing process to all students including English language learners

**Alfred Zanetti Montessori Elementary School**, Springfield, MA

Spring 2015

Second Grade Pre-Practicum

- Worked in a classroom of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students
- Assisted special needs children in classroom and recreation setting
- Facilitated guided discovery that incorporated life and beginner language skills

**Windsor State Street Elementary School**, Windsor, VT

Winter 2013 - Spring 2014

**Hartland Elementary School**, Hartland, VT

Winter 2013 - Spring 2014

Substitute Teacher

- Worked with grades K-8 and implemented teacher's lesson plans
- Supervised fourth grade field trip to science museum and applied behavior management techniques
- Assumed the responsibilities of a special educator in various assignments

**RELATED EXPERIENCE**

**Washington Elementary School**, Springfield, MA

Fall 2013 – Fall 2015

Tutor

- Guided 15 first grade students in after school program at
- Focused on beginner reading, writing and mathematics for students learning English as a second language
- Shared progress reports with the students as well as with their guardians
- Structured each personalized lesson as an extension of the last, allowing each student to progress at their own rate, in alignment with each student's level

**Alfred Zanetti Montessori Elementary School**, Springfield, MA

Fall 2015

Volunteer Tutor

- Demonstrated role-model behavior and provided positive encouragement to an at-risk 10-year-old boy
- Tutored and motivated the student through individual instruction three days a week

**YMCA**, Springfield, MA

Senior Camp Counselor

Summer 2015

Camp Counselor

Summers 2013, 2014

- Coordinated day camp for children from the ages of 6-12
- Facilitated meeting with all camp counselors
- Programmed and delivered daily activities for the 9-12 year-old group
- Shared responsibility of groups up to 21 children with co-counselors
- Participated in the planning of all camp activities such as field trips, theme days, family nights and award ceremonies

**CERTIFICATIONS**

CPR/First Aid, American Red Cross Lifeguard, Small Boats and Water Craft Certified

**SKILLS**

*Computer Skills:* Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, Smartboard Technology, ELMO

*Language Skills:* Conversational Spanish

## George Santiago

123 Main Street • Milford, MA 01757 • (413) 572-5206 • gsantiago5206@westfield.ma.edu

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### EDUCATION

**Westfield State University**, Westfield, MA

Bachelor of Science in Movement Science

December 2015

Concentration: Education

- GPA: 3.7/4.0

Licensure: Physical Education, Pre K-8 (*In Progress*)

- Passed MA Literacy and Communication Test for Educator Licensure
- SEI Endorsement

### HONORS/AWARDS

Dean's List, every semester

Phi Epsilon Kappa Physical Education Honor Society

Kappa Delta Pi Education Honor Society

President's Award for Excellence in Leadership

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Practicum, **Highland Elementary School**, Westfield, MA

September 2015-Present

- Create lesson plans based on students' developmental needs and age levels.
- Teach skill themes, movement concepts, teamwork, and integrated activities.
- Assess students' performance using physical fitness tests.

Substitute Teacher, **Nashua School District**, Nashua, NH

January 2014-May 2014

- Serve as a substitute for various subjects within elementary schools in the district.
- Follow substitute plans, take attendance, and teach the current subject.

Volunteer Teacher, **Mile Tree Elementary School**, Wilbraham, MA

December 2014

- Observed classroom instruction and management.
- Taught lessons in skill themes, movement concepts and dance for 1<sup>st</sup> grade.
- Worked cooperatively with the physical education teacher.
- Developed case studies on specific students and modified approach accordingly.

### RELATED EXPERIENCE

Open House Presenter, **Westfield State University**, Westfield, MA

September 2014-Present

- Facilitated a variety of icebreakers and activities.
- Presented on coursework and teaching methods at the high school level.

Sports Counselor, **Camp Sargent**, Merrimack, NH

Summers 2013, 2014

- Taught games and activities to children aged 5-14.
- Created and facilitated a 'Mini Olympics' involving running, obstacle courses, and relay races.

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance

January 2013-Present

- Attended National AAHPERD Conference, April 2015
- Presented at Eastern District Association AAHPERD Conference, February 2015

National Association for Sport and Physical Education

January 2013-Present

### CERTIFICATIONS

American Red Cross First Aid; Child and Adult CPR

## **Julia Johnson**

1234 Main Street  
Chicopee, MA 01013  
jjohnson5206@westfield.ma.edu  
(413) 572-5206

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	To obtain an early childhood education position that demands a creative teaching style, love for learning, and effective classroom management skills.
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<b>Westfield State University</b> , Westfield, MA Master of Education in Educational Studies, Expected May 2016 <b>License:</b> Early Childhood, Pre K -2 (In Progress) <b>Passed all sections of MA Tests for Educator Licensure</b>  <b>Saint Anselm College</b> , Manchester, NH Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, May 2005
<b>YOUTH EDUCATION EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Student Teacher</b> Mile Tree Elementary School, Wilbraham, MA, September 2016 - Present <i>Fourteen week pre-practicum in a first grade classroom.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Design and implemented literary lessons</li><li>• Facilitate guided reading, shared reading, and read aloud sessions</li><li>• Obtain and implement effective classroom management skills</li></ul> <b>Melody Hounds Instructor</b> Scantic Valley YMCA, Wilbraham, MA, September 2013 - Present <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase music awareness through instrument exploration, songs and rhymes</li><li>• Work with children ranging from infants to 5 year olds</li><li>• Lead integrated pitch exploration, activities and movement exercises to children and parents to nurture music appreciation</li></ul> <b>Fitness/Program Director and Instructor</b> Strafford County YMCA, Rochester, NH, 2011-2013 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supervised and participated in all YMCA fitness programs including summer day camp, aquatics, aerobics, senior day trips, swimming lessons, youth summer sports camps and others.</li><li>• Integrated parent involvement with staff members to facilitate a community learning environment.</li><li>• Implemented health and safety procedures in accordance with YMCA and state licensing compliance guidelines.</li><li>• Designed promotional materials, brochures and marketing plans including member newsletter.</li><li>• Planned and implemented all youth and adult fitness programs for 400-members facility and off-site satellite locations.</li></ul>
<b>ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Marketing Assistant / Office Manager</b> Allen Financial Group, Windsor, CT, 2010-2011  <b>Agent / Registered Representative</b> New York Life Insurance Company, Windsor, CT, 2005-2010



## Jeffrey Gullia

1234 Main Street  
Southbridge, MA 01550

Jgullia@email.net  
413-572-5206

### PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

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Motivated educator with diverse experiences in elementary education, coaching, and community involvement. Strong comfort with Spanish language both spoken and written. Recognized for cultivation of relationships with diverse student populations and fostering parental involvement.

### EDUCATION

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**Westfield State University**, Westfield, MA

Master of Education in Elementary Education, May 2016

- **License: Elementary Education, 1-6 (License #: 12345)**
- **SEI Endorsement**

**Assumption College**, Worcester, MA

Bachelor of Arts, May 2014

Dual Major: Spanish & Psychology                      Minor: Education

- GPA: 3.89/4.00
- Graduated *summa cum laude*

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Milton Bradley Elementary School, Springfield, MA**

Fall 2015

- Actively participated in a multicultural classroom with at-risk youth
- Provided individual assistance to students of various ability levels
- Designed and taught two lessons on literacy
- Modeled the reading process for students through read-alouds
- Assisted in individual assessment of students
- Applied classroom management techniques

### RELATED EXPERIENCE

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**Academic Support Center, Assumption College, Worcester, MA**

*Head Tutor*

2011-2013

*Private Tutor*

2011-2013

*Spanish and Psychology Tutor*

2010-2013

*Peer Tutoring Club Member*

2010-2013

- Obtained National Master's Level Certification
- Provided academic assistance to secondary and college students

**Assumption College, Recreation Department, Worcester, MA**

Soccer Camp Counselor

Summers 2009-2013

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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New England Peer Tutor Association, Member 2010-2013

- Facilitated conference presentation “Discipline Specific vs. General Writing Tutors”
- Assisted in research for conference presentation “When Tutor-Tutee Expectations Clash in an ESL Tutorial”

**LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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Strong understanding of the written and spoken Spanish language

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

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Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), Assumption College  
*President* 2012-2013  
*Vice President* 2011-2012

- Organized fundraising of \$4,000 for Make A Wish Foundation
- Helped initiate and organize “Kids on Campus Day”
- Helped organize and fundraise for “Coats for Kids” Project

Volunteer Coach, Worcester Youth Soccer U12 2012  
 Volunteer at Kid’s Café Boys & Girls Club, Inc. of Worcester 2010, 2011  
 Volunteer at Belmont Community School Reading Days 2010, 2011  
 Volunteer, Special Olympics 2010

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

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Boston Marathon 2015

- Raised \$2,000 for Make A Wish Foundation

NCAA Post Graduate Scholarship 2014  
 Men’s Soccer First Team All American 2013  
 Omicron Delta Kappa (National Leadership Society) 2012-2013  
 Dean’s List 2009-2013  
 Augustinian Merit Scholarship (Voted by College Faculty) 2011-2012  
 CoSida Academic All-Region 2011-2012  
 Men’s Soccer Team Captain as Junior and Senior 2011-2012  
 Northeast 10 Defender of the Year 2012

## Reference Page Sample (Separate Document from Resume)

References can be your supervising practitioner, cooperating program supervisor, previous employers (preferably in jobs where you worked with children), professors, or other professionals who can attest to your teaching abilities.

### **JAKE JOHNSON**

902 Jones Street • West Springfield, MA 01089  
(413) 572-5206 • jjohnson@email.net

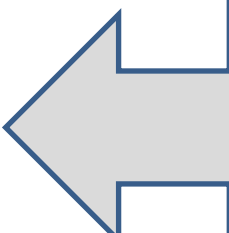
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#### **REFERENCES**

Mr. Timothy Beebe  
*Current Supervisor*  
Executive Director  
Boys Club of Worcester  
1125 State Street  
Worcester, MA 01111  
(413) 788-8419  
Tim.Beebe@boysclubworcester.com

Dr. Samantha A. Riley  
*Faculty Advisor*  
History Department, Faculty Member  
Westfield State University  
577 Western Avenue  
Westfield, MA 01086  
(413) 572-2135  
sriley@westfield.ma.edu

Mr. Robert M. Sanchez  
*Supervising Practitioner*  
Highland Elementary School  
222 Main Street  
Westfield, MA 01086  
(413) 598-3128  
rdsanchez@email.com



3-5 professional references are standard. Make sure to ask your references for permission before listing them and keep them informed about your job search, especially if you have interviewed for a position. They will most likely be called for a reference check after an interview. Also, be sure to obtain summer contact information!



**Need help starting your resume?  
Try our easy-to-use, resume creation tool,  
Resume Creator!**

**[www.westfield.ma.edu/careercenter](http://www.westfield.ma.edu/careercenter)**

**Then Click on “Career Connections for  
Students/Alumni”**

# COVER LETTERS

## A cover letter...

- Serves as your introduction to the employer
- Expresses your interest in being considered for a position
- Provides you with the opportunity to highlight how your skills and qualifications match those necessary to perform the position
- Captures the employer's attention and interest in reading your enclosed resume

An effective cover letter does not repeat or summarize your resume, but makes the reader want to learn more about you. **Every resume** should be accompanied with a cover letter, even if it's not listed as a required component of your application.

## BASIC LETTER WRITING RULES

### Address the letter to a specific person

- ✓ If you do not have a name, search the school website or LinkedIn for a Human Resources contact.
- ✓ Avoid the greeting "To Whom It May Concern". As a last resort, use "Dear Search Committee" or "Dear Human Resources Director" if a specific contact person isn't identified.

### Research the school carefully

- ✓ Be sure to include why you want to work for this particular school and/or district.
- ✓ Demonstrate that you appreciate and understand the school's mission, goals and population.

### Do not simply restate what is on your resume

- ✓ Think about the skills necessary to do the job for which you are applying and highlight an example or two best demonstrating how your skills and background directly match the specific job requirements. Examples of key issues to consider including: parental involvement, classroom management, state standards, diverse learning styles, etc.
- ✓ Confidently express what you can offer to the team, not what the opportunity will offer you.

### Tailor each cover letter to each employer

- ✓ Make each letter unique. Utilize the job description and school website to identify the necessary qualifications, unique attributes of this school, and main responsibilities for this particular role to incorporate into your letter.
- ✓ What do you know about this particular school and how do your skills and qualifications match the specific needs of the position? Consider experiences you've gained working with this population of students or in a similar environment and make that connection for the reader.

### Limit the letter to one page and avoid spelling and grammatical errors

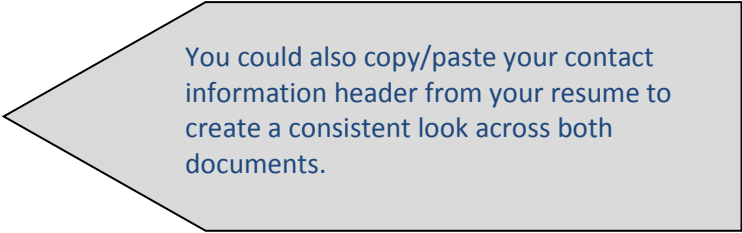
- ✓ Avoid excessive use of "I" when starting sentences.
- ✓ Print on high quality paper to match your resume.
- ✓ Be sure to sign your name on each cover letter, unless submitting electronically.

### Professional Communication

- ✓ Use this opportunity to ensure your voicemail message and email address are professional!
- ✓ Clearly state your name in your message and remove any ring back tones. Your email address should include your name@domain.com.

# COVER LETTER FORMAT

Your Street Address  
City, State Zip Code  
Your Phone Number  
E-mail (optional)



You could also copy/paste your contact information header from your resume to create a consistent look across both documents.

Date  
(2 lines)

Contact Person's Name  
Title  
School Name  
Street Address  
City, State Zip Code

(1 line)

Dear Mr./Ms./Dr. Last Name: (Use title if name is not available)

(1 line)

**Paragraph 1:** State why you are writing and identify the position in which you are applying. Include why you are interested in this particular position and working for that specific school and/or district. If relevant, address how you learned of the opportunity. (If you are writing at the suggestion of someone who knows the addressee, this is a good place to say so).

**Paragraph 2:** Briefly state the specific work that interests you and detail the relevant qualifications you offer. Spell out exactly how your experiences, skills, and education fit the position and can benefit the team. Cite specifically what you know about their school's curriculum, student population or recent initiatives. Avoid general statements about your experiences or the school.

**Paragraph 3:** Close the letter by thanking the reader for their attention or consideration and stating the next course of action. Indicate that you will follow up with your application (and then do it!). Refer the reader to any documents you have enclosed (resume, references, letters of recommendation, etc.). Provide the employer with your phone number so that they can reach you.

(1 line)

Sincerely,

(3 lines) - Your Signature

Type Your Name

Teacher Cover Letter Sample 1 – Applying for an Entry-Level Teaching Position

Ayanna E. Rivera  
1000 Bay Side Road  
Westfield, MA 01085  
(413) 572-5206  
ayannarivera@email.net

July 30, 2016

Mr. Joseph Dupelle  
Administrator of Special Education and Student Support  
Westfield Public Schools  
22 Ashley Street  
Westfield, MA 01085

Dear Mr. Dupelle:

The Westfield State University Career Center notified me of a current vacancy in your system for a Special Education Teacher. I am very interested in the position and would like to be considered for your opening.

I graduated from Westfield State University with a Bachelor of Science in Education and a dual major in Psychology and Special Education. My certification in Special Education is complete, along with several courses at the graduate level. As you will note on the enclosed resume, I have enjoyed the challenge of working with educationally handicapped students who were mainstreamed into my fourth grade classroom at Franklin Avenue Elementary School.

During my student teaching, I had the opportunity to incorporate a learning center environment based on student needs, and utilized activity centers for individualized and small group instruction. These efforts helped to improve student achievement and stimulated interest in learning.

With your large multicultural student population, you may also be interested in the fact that I have worked with students of varied ethnic, social and economic background. My experience includes both inner-city and rural teaching environments. I have also worked closely with the YMCA's after-school program and enjoyed the challenge of designing recreational and social activities that stimulate out-of-classroom learning and enjoyment.

I am enclosing my resume, a completed application and a copy of my certification. I would welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss this position in greater detail. Please feel free to contact me at (413) 572-5206. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Ayanna E. Rivera*

Ayanna E. Rivera

**Randy J. Watson**

10 Magnolia Terrace • Pittsfield, MA 01028  
(413) 572-5206  
rjwatson@email.net

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April 18, 2016

Dr. Matthew Malone, Superintendent  
Brockton Public Schools  
43 Crescent Street  
Brockton, MA 02301

Dear Dr. Malone:

William Thomas, a former instructor in your district and currently my supervising practitioner, suggested I contact you about the opening for an elementary educator for the coming academic year. I will receive my Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education in May.

I was excited to learn that you are a growing district with a strong commitment to team teaching and open classroom environments. My student teaching experience in the Springfield Public Schools incorporated this exciting approach. I participated with three other teachers to target students' needs in Math and English. We developed small group instruction and individualized centers to reach our objectives. I was able to utilize my solid foundation in computers in our classrooms to assist students on an individual basis.

As you can see from the enclosed resume, I have demonstrated a strong interest in teaching through academic and classroom experience. I have held a number of part-time and summer positions in the educational/recreational field that have helped me develop my professional skills. I look forward to sharing my enthusiasm, training and experience in the Brockton Public School District.

I would welcome the opportunity to talk with you further about the available elementary educator position and can be reached at (413) 572-5206. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Randy Watson*

Randy J. Watson

# LETTERS OF INQUIRY

## A letter of inquiry (or letter of interest)...

- Expresses your interest in an employer and/or employment opportunity without referencing a job posting (typically because there are no positions currently posted or immediately available)
- Includes similar qualities and template to a cover letter, but without addressing a specific position or posting

## LETTER OF INQUIRY FORMAT

Your Name  
Street Address  
City, State, Zip Code  
Phone Number  
E-Mail (optional)

**(1 line)**

Today's Date

**(2 lines)**

Contact Name  
Title  
School System/Organization Name  
Street Address  
City, State Zip Code

**(1 line)**

Dear Mr./Ms./Dr. Last Name: (Use Title if name is not available)

State your hope to be considered for any positions that may become available at the organization and why you are interested in working for the company. If you are writing at the suggestion of someone who knows the addressee, this is a good place to say so.

Tell them what your status is now and why you feel you would be especially well qualified for this position. This paragraph should include one or two brief sentences that emphasize your strengths as they relate to the field in which you are interested. If possible, it is always nice to personalize your letter by saying something positive about the reputation of the organization, its accomplishments, and how you fit with their company.

Refer the reader to any enclosed documents (resume, writing samples, etc.) and inform them of the manners in which you can be contacted (email, phone). If you plan to follow up, indicate your plan of action here. Close the paragraph by thanking the reader for their time and consideration.

**(2 lines)**

Sincerely,

**(3 lines)** - Your Signature

Type Your Name

Enclosure(s)



Teacher Sample Letter of Inquiry

25 Apple Orchard Way  
Albany, New York 10091  
ccmitchell@email.net

June 18, 2016

Ms. Joan Nadeau  
Human Resources Specialist  
Westfield Public Schools  
22 Ashley St.  
Westfield, MA 01085

Dear Ms. Nadeau:

I am interested in joining Westfield Public Schools as an Elementary Teacher (Grades 1-6) and ask that you consider my application for any anticipated openings. I earned my Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and Social Work in May 2016. I will receive an Advanced Provisional Licensure from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

I have been a substitute teacher in the Holyoke Public School System since December of 2012. Some of the qualifications I can offer your school system are:

- Worked closely with grade level teachers to enhance grade level (K-3) curriculum in Language Arts and math.
- Taught students through active learning and appreciation; communicated with parents through school visits; prepared report cards; administered citywide tests.
- My passion to make a difference in students' lives by showing and teaching respect and building their self-esteem.

My teaching experiences have prepared me to work in a wide variety of multicultural classrooms and to enhance the experience for all children. I am able to utilize my solid foundation in education to assist students on an individual basis. As you can see from the enclosed résumé, I have demonstrated a strong interest in teaching through academic and classroom experience.

I have held short-term and long-term teaching positions that have helped me develop my professional skills. I look forward to sharing my enthusiasm, training and experience in the Westfield Public School System. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss my unique qualifications and can be reached at (413) 572-5206. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Christina C. Mitchell*

Christina C. Mitchell

## COVER LETTER TIP:

A great way to organize your thoughts before writing a cover letter is to make a list of the job requirements the company is asking for and then list your skills.

JOB REQUIREMENTS	MY SKILLS