



Shawn Gonyaw

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Elementary School Principal

Offering 24 years of achievement in developing productive, enthusiastic, collaborate, and student-focused environments in pre-k through 8th grade settings built on high expectations, which foster responsibility, cooperation, and a curiosity to learn.

“Shawn has worked with his Westshire faculty and established a professional learning community....He is able to address difficult issue at his school, provide instructional leadership for the school and works with reluctant teachers to improve their teaching....Shawn has developed an inviting school atmosphere for the families of West Fairlee and Vershire. He has great relationships with students. Shawn would be an asset to any school.”

Gail Keiling, Superintendent, Rivendell Interstate School District

Education

Master of Education, Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, New Hampshire, May 2007.

Elementary Education – B.S., Liberal Studies and B.A. Lyndon State College, Lyndonville, VT, May 1995.

Certification

Vermont Superintendent Grades PreK-12, Level I

Vermont Principal Grades PreK-12, Level II

Vermont Elementary Education, Grades K-6, Level II

Recognition

Vermont Middle Level Principal of the Year, 2018

Snelling Leadership Initiative, 2017

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, November 2002

Professional Experience

Barnet School District, Barnet, VT

2010 – Present

Principal – Barnet School

Responsible for overall activities for a Pre-k through grade eight school with 227 students and 35 faculty members. Scope of position includes: staff development and evaluation; student discipline; program development; team-building; budget development; shared decision making; development of partnerships with community; and creation of a safe, respectful, and healthy environment.

- Worked collaboratively with district administrators to develop a supervision and evaluation process based upon the work of Danielson, ISTE, Tomlinson, and others.
- Coordinated with East Central Vermont Literacy Consortium and Vermont Reads Institute to develop a K-3 literacy program that included quality classroom instruction as well as strong interventions for struggling learners.
- Improved student discipline through the implementation of Vermont PBIS, Responsive Classroom, and improved behavior interventions.
- Astutely observed staff and faculty performance, document observations, and conduct evaluation conferences.
- Participated in a multi-year initiative with the Montshire Museum and district science team to implement an inquiry-based science curriculum.
- Worked collaboratively with staff to develop an outdoor education curriculum that utilizes 90 acres of property and includes outdoor classrooms, Quebec bread oven, chicken coop, and gardens.

Rivendell Interstate School District, Orford, NH
Principal – Westshire Elementary School

2007 – 2010

Responsible for overall activities for an elementary school with 100 students and 25 faculty members. Scope of position includes: staff development and evaluation; student discipline; program development; team-building; budget development; shared decision making; development of partnerships with community; and creation of a safe, respectful, and healthy environment.

- Built partnership with community through Everybody Wins! Reading mentor program that partnered 45% of 2nd – 4th grade students with community mentors.
- Reduced the student discipline rate by implementing a positive student discipline program.
- Increased student science proficiency on NECAP tests by implementing teacher peer-observations and staff development partnership with Montshire Museum of Science.
- Collaborated with staff to build a research-based enrichment/remediation program to increase student choice and achievement.
- Coordinated with the music teacher to begin community chorus touring. Chorus students spend a day stopping at elderly community member's homes to share the gift of song.
- Worked in partnership with other district administrators to apply for 21st Century funds to run a successful after school and summer program.
- Facilitated *Critical Friends Group* that made teaching public and fostered a safe, collaborate atmosphere among teachers.
- Applied for and received grant through Vermont Rural Partnership to start a school-wide publishing house.

Rivendell Interstate School District, Orford, NH
Teacher – Westshire Elementary School

2004 – 2007

- Successfully taught the first grade curriculum to students of various ability levels.
- Planned parent nights to build a strong sense of community and educate parents.
- Worked collaboratively as an active member of a Professional Learning Community to strengthen teaching and learning.
- Developed a K-2 summer reading program that provided an enriching opportunity for summer learning.
- Served as a member of the social studies curriculum group, planning and implementing committee, school outreach committee and educational support team.
- Published narrative and report writing and planned a Young Authors' Night where parents and community members enjoyed student published books.
- In partnership with grade level team, wrote units based upon Vermont GE's and Standards.
- Collaborated in the creation of a local assessment plan.
- Planned staff development opportunities for pre-k through 12 district employees centered on technology, literacy development, curriculum mapping, World of Difference and other areas of need.
- Worked in partnership with art, music and physical education teachers to develop integrated units.
- Used *Journey North* and other web sites to help students understand their global community.

Strafford School District, Strafford, VT
Teacher – Newton Primary School

2000 – 2004

- Designed and carried out developmentally appropriate lessons based on Vermont Standards within a variety of settings including multiage ½ and 2/3 classes as well as second and third grade settings.
- Fostered student growth using a guided reading approach including Literature Circles, Summary/Retell Journals, Junior Great Books, Book Seminars, Interactive Writing and Making Words.
- Successfully taught the Everyday Math program and math problem solving.
- Planned writing lessons and in-services to meet state standards for Narratives, Reports, Responses to Literature and Procedures.
- Wrote an original play with second and third graders based on the *Bunnicula* book series. Directed students in a community performance.

Onslow County Schools, Jacksonville, NC
Teacher – Hunters Creek Elementary School

1997 – 2000

- Provided quality instruction in a number of innovative settings.
- Collaborated with Title 1 teacher to modify instruction t an at-risk class of 22 children.
- Piloted a K-2 POD (school within a school) to better individualize and meet the needs of students in a a caring, challenging, and cooperative manner.
- Implemented K-2 Assessment Portfolios including Running Records, Retellings, Writing Samples, and other tools to better meet the needs of students.
- Served a three-year term as Grade Level Chairperson.
- Facilitated Thinking Maps staff development countywide.

Roma Independent School District, Roma, Texas
Special Education Teacher, Ynes B. Escobar Elementary

1996 – 1997

- Instructed Learning Impaired, Autistic and learning Disabled Students.
- Utilized a wide range of modifications focused on individual needs to bring about student achievement.
- Coordinated administering of Admission, Review, and Dismissal meetings as well as IEP plans.
- Collaborated closely with staff members, participated in teacher meetings and parent conferences.

Roma Independent School District, Roma, Texas
Reading Teacher, Roma Middle School

1995 – 1996

- Enthusiastically helped in pioneering a reading program targeted for at-risk middle school students.
- Created a curriculum which implemented thematic, and technology based approaches.
- Utilized current technology to enhance student learning.
- Communicated effectively with parents, teachers, and students.

Blue Mountain Union School District, Wells River, VT
Rural Education Teacher, Blue Mountain Union School

1996 – 1997

- Implemented an enrichment program aimed at fostering self-esteem in migrant children.
- Worked in the school environment, as well as with families in their homes.
- Conducted numerous creative lessons to encompass a wide range of learning abilities.
- Participated in team, faculty, parent, IEP, and professional development meetings.
- Built relationships with families that allowed greater communication between school and home.

Professional Development Highlights

Assessment to Make School-Wide Change
TechWorks: Teaching Teacher to Use Technology
CFG (Critical Friends Group): Coaches Training
Responsive Classroom Institute

Vermont School Leadership Academy
Challenges in Leadership
Meeting Vermont Math Standards
Vermont PBIS

References

Dr. Mathew Forest, Superintendent of School at Caledonia Central Supervisory Union
mathew.forest@ccsuvt.net, 802-684-3801

Mrs. Cathy Browne, Special Education Director at Caledonian Central Supervisory Union
cathy.browne@ccsuvt.net, 802-684-3801

Mr. James Lamar , Grade 2 teacher at Barnet School.
jlamar@kidrow.net , 802-633-4978

Mr. Eric Bogie, Physical Education Teacher at Barnet School
ebogie@kidrow.net, 802-633-4978