"I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious." —Albert Einstein

Self-education is a lifelong curiosity, and as long as we develop this passion for learning we will never cease to grow. By adopting a growth mindset into the fabric of my lifelong learning process, I have been able to continuously focus my efforts towards habits of daily growth. These habits of self-development, paired with my unquenchable hunger for knowledge, have prepared me as a teacher of English language arts and as a student of lifelong learning.

All my work experience has been centered around two primary focuses: education and behavioral psychology. These tools have taught me as much as they have taught my clients and students. Certified in Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), I worked with clients, ages 12-18 years old, in need of developmental behavior therapy. Providing one-on-one intervention to children on the Autism spectrum, I implemented behavior-analytic services and taught them the social, emotional, and behavioral skills they needed to succeed. While teaching, I began to evaluate my own behaviors through the same analytic lens. This kickstarted my passion for behaviorally engineering my habits of self-development, evolving my daily action initiations from a conscious motivational basis to a context-cued impulse-driven mechanism. Habitual behavior is regulated through this impulsive process; thus, I consistently focus on automatizing my goal-direct behavior until it becomes habitual. By implementing this behavior-analytic framework into a highly structured schedule of self-education, I have been able to continuously focus on my passion of lifelong learning, advancing my knowledge and preparation for teaching English language arts.

Our outcomes are a lagging measure of our habits. It is with a passionate curiosity and an insatiable love of learning I prepare myself to reimagine the world of education. Through continuous self-development, I will take daily actions of growth-acquisition to transform our outmoded education system. Our rapidly changing 21<sup>st</sup> century requires a passion-driven learning system in which students can develop an intrinsic self-motivation to become lifelong learners.