

I believe my main goal as an English Language Arts teacher at the middle school/high school level would be to support students in becoming more dynamic, versatile, and confident communicators. I would do this by exposing students to as many different sources and styles of communication as possible. Every class would begin with a challenge relating to a particular form or style of communication. This would include poetry, creative short-story writing, book-plot planning and development, reading and comprehension of narratives, scientific reading and writing, media and advertisement writing and marketing, public speaking in front of the class, and many others! I have a strong background in sports both as an athlete and coach, and incorporate a lot of group-work and team-building activities to build the energy of a classroom to a level that is inspiring, uplifting, and collaborative!

The material I use needs to be accessible, relevant, readable and understandable for the students I am working with! The books, articles/magazines, speeches, journals, and other communicative works of general notoriety I have seen as a student in high school and university will provide me with a good background of options to use for content, and I will consult the recommended options from the Washington/Oregon standards for the middle school or high school level I am teaching.

I have worked in journalism and education for many years (three for a sports magazine and over four as an instructional

assistant and substitute teacher) and can bring that experience and skill set to the Language Arts classroom.

I look forward to taking additional classes that will provide more depth and range to the material and techniques I can use in the classroom.

I enjoy beginning every class with a group challenge that is designed to be fun, engaging, accessible, and skill-building focused.

Thank you for reading my application endorsement-checklist essay!

Connor Hastings