

Brenda Merino Castellano

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PROFILE

Professionalism, patience, understanding, loving, kindness, a listening ear, a heart to understand and to accept people for who they are, slow to anger, quick to help, and do my best to give the highest quality of education to both students and colleagues alike.

EXPERIENCE

Newburgh Enlarged City School District Substitute Teacher

October 2019–Present

- Long term substitute teacher: Created and carried out lesson plans. Collaborated with colleagues to plan and implement appropriate lessons and activities for students. Participated in Parent Teacher conferences.
- Head teacher: Followed lesson plans and instructions of the teacher.
- Teacher Assistant: Followed lesson plan providing support to the teachers and reinforcing skills in small groups.

Little Harvard School, New Windsor, NY. Teacher/co-Teacher March 2013–June 2019

- Taught in the toddler room three years. Created and implemented lesson plans following OCFS and NAEYC standards. Assessed children using Ages and Stages.
- Attended staff development meetings and 30 hours yearly training workshops according to state requirements at the time.
- Interacted with parents on a daily basis and parent teacher conferences monthly. Taught in the PreK classroom for four years. Created and implemented Lesson plans using Common Core then transitioned to Creative Curriculum Teaching Strategy Gold. Managed classroom environment and maintenance. Assisted CoTeacher reinforcing skills being taught in the classroom. (Small group/one on one)
- Assessed and Screened students using Brigance Screening and Newburgh UPK Assessment.
- Assessed, Screened and recorded students' development through the use of Teaching Strategy Gold.
- Worked with families for the support needs of their child attending CSE meetings. Worked collaboratively with co-workers to plan and implement age appropriate lesson plans and activities.
- Obtained 15 hours yearly of professional Development attending workshops and conferences including NECSD UPK Creative Curriculum Training and workshops. Attended and participated in Parent forums, Parent Teacher Conferences, and open houses.

Department of Education NYC Substitute Teacher
2007–2008

- Followed the lessons left by absent teacher
- Prepared lessons in advanced just in case no lessons plans were available
- Performed administrative tasks

KEY SKILLS

- Microsoft Office Proficient
- Google Suite Proficient
- Relationship building among students and Colleagues
- Organization & Prioritization
- Flexible
- Ability to care & manage students with special needs

Certification

Teaching Assistant– Level 1

LANGUAGES

Fluent in Spanish and English

- Promoted positive student behavior
- Ensured the safety and security of the student
- Expected To serve as needed in other school duties when a substitute teacher is not required
- Additional duties as assigned

Way Truth & Life School, Manati, PR 5th & 6th Grade Dual Language Teacher
2003-2006

- Responsible for 23 children in a dual language classroom.
- Created and carried out lesson plans.
- Interacted with parents on a daily basis. Attended staff development meetings, interacted with colleagues.
- Prepared homework and cutouts for lessons on a daily basis.
- Specialized in teaching conversational English to non-English speaking students.
- Assisted the principal in administering diagnostic tests for student placement within the school.

Academia Cristiana de Manati, Manati, Puerto Rico Teacher
2000-2002

Third & Fourth Grade Dual Language Class, Teacher
First - Twelve Grade English as a Second Language Teacher

EDUCATION

American University of Puerto Rico, Manati, Puerto Rico

Bachelor of Education (ESL)

Date of Graduation 2000

Nyack College, Nyack, New York

Enrolled Masters of Science in Education (Elementary)

Expected graduation year 2022