

Brynn L. Decker

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3230 Normandy Circle NE • Marietta, GA 30062 • (404) 409-8266

EDUCATION

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

Masters of Education in Reading, Language and Literacy, June 2008 – May 2010

- Reading Specialist focus, K-12
- Literacy Coach and Tutor at Urban Literacy Clinic
- Overall GPA: 4.2

Miami University, Oxford, Ohio

Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education, August 1999 - May 2003

- **Cum Laude** Overall GPA: 3.6/4.0
- **Dean's List** All semesters at Miami University
- **Recipient of Miami University Jean E. Mate Memorial Award**, 2002
Awarded to a student for academic excellence within the Education Department

The Lovett School, Atlanta, Georgia

College Prep Diploma, June, 1999

- **Recipient of Lovett Alumni Award**, 1999
Awarded to a student who exemplifies the outstanding characteristics of a Lovett student.

CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

New Jersey State Certification, Elementary K – 5, Issued: September 2011

- Teacher of Reading Certificate
- M.Ed. – T5 Certification

Georgia State Certification, P – 5, 2004 – 2014

- M.Ed. – T5 Certification, Issued 2010
- Reading Instruction Certification, Issued 2011

Ohio Licensure: Early Childhood Education, PK – 3, Reading Endorsement, 2003

LITERACY LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Reading Coach, Grades K - 6

Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology, K – 12 Charter School, Paterson, NJ **2011 – Present**

- **Literacy Curriculum Coordinator** – Designed a balanced literacy curriculum and instructional model for integrating best practices to meet the specific needs of the student population and align the curriculum with the Common Core State Standards for Grades K - 6.
- **Professional Development Coordinator and Facilitator** – Designed two weeks of literacy professional development to train teachers in the balanced literacy approach, language and literacy development, and teaching with the brain in mind. The professional development was driven by *Architecture of Learning* and *Foundations and Frameworks*, both graduate level courses. An overview of *The Daily 5* and *Reading CAFÉ* were also included in the training. In addition, collaborated with the Director of Curriculum to plan and facilitate staff development throughout the school year.
- **Reading Coach** – Observed, supported, modeled lessons, and worked alongside of teachers in order to ensure understanding and utilization of the balanced literacy approach, best practices, and teaching with the brain in mind. In addition, evaluated students to determine strengths, weaknesses, and learning styles in order to make recommendations for teaching techniques, differentiation, and coach teachers in how to best teach struggling literacy learners in the classroom.
- **Language Arts Department Chair** – Coordinated the scope and sequence of the literacy curriculum, facilitated teacher collaboration throughout the year, evaluated lesson plans to ensure the use of best practices on a daily basis in the classroom, and coordinated school-wide literacy events to fuel and celebrate a love for reading, writing, and learning.
- **Member of I&RS** – Worked with a Response to Intervention team to support teachers with struggling students, administered a literacy assessment when necessary, communicated with parents, and collaborated with the social worker when a psychological evaluation was requested.
- **Summer Literacy Program Developer and Coordinator** – Designed, organized, and led a month-long program to close the achievement gap for capable and motivated yet struggling literacy learners.

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LITERACY LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (continued)

Mt. Bethel Christian Academy, PK – 8 Christian Day School, Marietta, Georgia **2009 - 2011**

- **Reading Curriculum Trainer and Coordinator** - Directed and taught a two-week graduate level training course for 14 teachers (K-5) to implement the *Foundations & Frameworks* reading curriculum school-wide during the 2009 – 2010 school year; organized and ordered books and supplies; organized curriculum mapping and scope and sequence K – 5.
- **Reading Coach** – observed and coached 14 teachers (K-5) in implementing *Foundations & Frameworks* effectively.
- **Staff Development Leader** – Trained 18 teachers (K-5) in *Architecture of Learning; Teaching with the Brain in Mind*; successfully obtained approval for PLUs towards certification.
- **Developed** the third grade reading curriculum during the 2009-2010 school year.
- **Piloted** the *Foundations & Frameworks* reading curriculum during the 2009 – 2010 school year.
- **Reading Curriculum Committee** – Participated in choosing a new school-wide reading program.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2nd and 3rd Grade Teacher

Mt. Bethel Christian Academy, PK – 8 Christian Day School, Marietta, Georgia **2003 – 2011**

- Maintained the Lead Teacher position in a self-contained classroom of 22 students.
- Rewrote the Writing curriculum to integrate the teaching of English and Writing and align with best practices for literacy development.
- Planned units throughout the school year to enhance and differentiate the curriculum.
- Volunteered for various committees throughout the year to assist with extracurricular activities and school-wide community events.
- Tutored struggling students in phonics, reading, and math after and before school hours.
- Developed an interactive summer camp for struggling students in Math and Writing. 2007, 2011
- Served on the committee to choose a new Social Studies curriculum. 2006

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Strategies to teach the CCSS and Achieve Proficient on the NJASK
Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ March 2013
- *Writer's Stylus* writing curriculum
Manhattan Christian School, New York, NY July 2012
- Advanced Training for *Foundations & Frameworks* reading curriculum
Briarwood Christian School, Birmingham, AL January 2010
- Advanced Training for *Architecture of Learning, Teaching with the Brain in Mind*
Briarwood Christian School, Birmingham, AL January 2010
- Basic Training to Teach *Foundations & Frameworks* reading curriculum
Briarwood Christian School, Birmingham, AL July 2009
- Basic Training for *Architecture of Learning, Teaching with the Brain in Mind*
Briarwood Christian School, Birmingham, AL July 2009

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Reading Association (IRA)
Clerestory Learning, Dr. Kevin Washburn

COMPUTER SKILLS

PC – Proficient in WORD, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Movie Maker / MAC – iWork, iLife programs
Reading Programs: Received Professional Development for *Accelerated Reader* and *Raz-Kids*

REFERENCES

Lenny Kopacz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
(Previously at Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology)
114 Newman Ave., Bayonne, NJ (201) 726-3542
theekop@aol.com

Vivian Lovett, Principal
Mt. Bethel Christian Academy,
4385 Lower Roswell Rd., Marietta, Georgia 30068 (770) 971 – 0245
Vivian.lovett@mtbethel.org

Kevin Washburn, Ed.D. Executive Director, *Clerestory Learning*
150 Hampton Lake Drive, Pelham, Alabama 35124 (888) 622 - 6932
Kevin@clerestorylearning.com

Joanne Peterson, *Foundations & Frameworks* Coordinator
Briarwood Christian School
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