

MONTESSORI DIRECTOR

## Details

402-990-7961 <u>sweetka@unk.edu</u>

## Links

<u>Linked In</u> <u>Montessori Tails</u>

## Skills

**Computer Skills** 

Creativity

Montessori Curriculum Development

# Profile

Experienced Montessori Educator and Teacher Trainer

## **Employment History**

# Interim Director of Montessori Education, Lecturer, University of Nebraska-Kearney, Kearney, NE

MAY 2020 - PRESENT

- Oversee the Montessori Teacher Education Program for Early Childhood and Elementary I levels
- Teach Montessori undergraduate and graduate-level courses, Early Childhood and Elementary I levels
- Oversee Montessori faculty
- Facilitate program accreditation
- Ensure program quality and alignment with AMS and MACTE

# Elementary Level Coordinator, Field Consultant, University of Nebraska-Kearney, Kearney, NE

AUGUST 2019 - MAY 2020

- Assisted Montessori Endowed Chair with accreditation related to the elementary program
- Ensured program quality and alignment with AMS and MACTE

#### Adjunct Instructor, University of Nebraska-Kearney, Kearney, NE

JANUARY 2019 - MAY 2020

• Taught graduate-level Montessori Teacher Education courses

### Teacher Trainer, Mentor, Consultant, Interim Director, Montessori Children's Academy, Omaha, NE

SEPTEMBER 2019 - MAY 2020

Private Montessori child care center

- Trained preschool teachers in Montessori curriculum
- Facilitated readiness for Step up to Quality
- Served as Interim Director for two months

English Language Teacher, Dada, Beijing, China

JANUARY 2018 - DECEMBER 2019

China-based English learning company

• Taught English to children in China via live online video platform

## Montessori Teacher Trainer, Mid-America Montessori Teacher Training Institute, Omaha, NE

APRIL 2021 - APRIL 2021

AMS Teacher Education Program

• Facilitated teacher training for the elementary level

#### Montessori teacher, Millard Public Schools, Omaha, NE

AUGUST 1996 - JUNE 2018

Mini-magnet program in an urban school district

- Montessori Teacher for Lower Elementary (grades 1-3) 1996-2003; 2007-2019
- Montessori Teacher for Primary (preschool-Kindergarten) 2003-2007

Professional Responsibilities:

- Consultant for Millard Intervention Team
- Mentor for new teachers
- Social Committee Chairperson
- Served on Site Planning Teams
- Action Team Leader for Site Planning
- Junior Achievement Coordinator
- Professional Learning Community Team Leader

#### Preschool Teacher, Love & Learn Preschool, Omaha, NE

SEPTEMBER 1994 - MAY 1996

Christian preschool at Faith Westwood United Methodist Church

- Preschool teacher for ages 3-6
- Developed and taught developmentally appropriate curriculum including Bible-based instruction

Professional Responsibilities:

• Member of Board of Directors

#### Preschool Teacher, Creche Child Care, Omaha, NE

SEPTEMBER 1992 - AUGUST 1994

Non-profit child care center

- Preschool Teacher for a low-income and racially diverse population
- Developed and taught curriculum based on Developmentally Appropriate Practice

Montessori Teacher, Parkview Montessori School, Elk Grove Village, IL AUGUST 1987 – MAY 1989

Private Montessori child care center

• Toddler Teacher

Teacher, Webster County Schools, Webster Springs, WV

SEPTEMBER 1984 - JUNE 1987

- Rural consolidated school district
  - Grades 7-8 Language Arts Teacher 1984-1985
  - Grade 5 Teacher 1985-1987

## Education

Ed.D in progress, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE AUGUST 2020 – PRESENT

Currently enrolled in CPED program; expected completion date 2023

M.Ed., University of Nebraska-Omaha, Omaha, NE

SEPTEMBER 1992 - AUGUST 2003

- Master of Science in Elementary Education with a focus in Early Childhood and Reading
- Earned Early Childhood endorsement

BA, Marietta College, Marietta, OH

SEPTEMBER 1980 - JUNE 1984

- Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education
- Earned OH K-8 Teaching certification

AMS Certification, Mid-America Montessori Teacher Training Institute, Omaha. NE

JUNE 1997 - JULY 2003

• Earned American Montessori Society credentials in Early Childhood (ages 3-6) and Elementary I (ages 6-9)

## **Additional Certifications**

#### Nebraska Teaching Certificate

APRIL 2021 - APRIL 2021

- Early Childhood
- Elementary

## **Community Involvement**

Preschool Christian Education Team Leader, Flatland Church, Omaha, NE AUGUST 2018 – PRESENT

• Scheduling, curriculum development, teaching, and coordinating volunteers for Sunday preschool classes

#### Women's Bible Study Leader, Flatland Church, Omaha, NE

SEPTEMBER 2017 - PRESENT

• Planning and facilitation of weekly women's Bible study

Research Team, Flatland Church, Omaha, NE

JANUARY 2018 - MARCH 2021

• Research and weekly blog posts for church website

## Presentations

Foundational Skills in Montessori Early Childhood, UNK Early Childhood Conference

OCTOBER 2019 - OCTOBER 2019

## **Professional Development**

Faculty Online Training, University of Nebraska-Kearney

Safe with You, Omaha, NE

FEBRUARY 2020 - FEBRUARY 2020

Montessori Foundation/IMC Conference, Virtual

The Montessori Event/AMS, Virtual

#### **Childhood Potential Conference, Virtual**

APRIL 2021 - APRIL 2021

## Scholarship

Teacher Scholars Academy Review, University of Nebraska-Lincoln MARCH 2021 – MARCH 2021

 Participated in selection process through review of resumes and video applications and interviews with candidates

Peer Reviewer for The Nebraska Educator , Lincoln, NE

• Currently preparing to participate as a peer reviewer