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9th/12th- English 1 & 4
March 21, 2022

Members of the TEAM Coordinating Committee,

As a humanities teacher, human connection drives my thought process on a daily basis. I believe that the relationships that we have with one another is vital to our progress in society. Although teachers primarily teach alone, success in the profession relies just as much as the community around each individual teacher. Without other educators to learn from, we all risk stagnation. My first year of teaching, like nearly all first-year teachers, was over whelminging. I absolutely looked forward to my Thursday meetings with my TEAM mentor. It was the best opportunity to debrief my successes and failures every week. She listened patiently, most of the time responding with quality advice, but sometimes with a laugh. I also looked forward to having the opportunity to not only identify some of my weaknesses, but think through them with someone who understands. My days teaching felt more purposeful when addressing my classroom goals in meaningful, targeted ways. Reflecting both in person and on paper allowed me to grow in my profession. I believe the best application of what I have learned about education, and will eagerly continue to learn, is in mentorship. I want to be a valuable source of human connection for someone- a piece of the larger community that encourages and guides new teachers to learn, reflect and grow.

I can offer a beginning teacher opportunities to discuss, problem solve, plan and reflect on their practice. My background in English makes me a valuable resource for helping mentees write and revise their reflections. As an interim member of Bristol Central's On-Track Team, I have developed high-quality target task assessments and was a part of meetings that tracked and analyzed data. I am committed to education and to the larger Bristol community. I feel that, as a public servant and Bristol resident, I can best give to my community through teaching. Mentoring is an extension of that. As a more recent graduate of a master's program in curriculum and instruction, I can also offer new teachers a fresh perspective on education that aligns with shifts in Bristol's curriculum. I am familiar with the newer literacy look-fors, the development of quality learning targets, and have taken part in anchor-text novel discussions and piloting. Moreover, I can offer a new teacher a positive mentality and a supportive environment to talk and learn. In mentorship, I will also be given an additional opportunity to reflect on my own practice and will continually evaluate how I can be a better teacher for our students.

The variety of mentors I have had in my life, primarily through Bristol public schools, have all helped shape the educator I am. It would be my absolute pleasure to serve the community as a TEAM mentor and usher in a new generation of Bristol teachers.

Thank you for your consideration,

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