

Sarah-Jane Tait Aherne

EDUCATION

Eastern Michigan University Ypsilanti, MI
Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership January '11-Present
Overall GPA: 4.0/4.0

Eastern Michigan University Ypsilanti, MI
Masters in Social Foundations: Teaching for Diversity December '07
Overall GPA: 3.97/4.0

University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI
Bachelor of Arts in Education December '00
Overall GPA: 3.68/4.0; Education GPA: 3.89/4.0

Certification

- * Michigan Elementary Professional Certificate: All subjects Pre-K (ZA endorsed) through grade 5 (K-8 if in a self-contained classroom, as well as, Language Arts & Science in grades 6-8)
- * Teaching Certificate: December '00

Honors

Class Honors in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Wayne-Westland Community Schools Westland, MI
Intervention Specialist, Schweitzer Elementary (Title I School) Aug. '10-Present

- *Provides small group literacy interventions for K-4 at-risk students
- *MEAP, OLSAT, and ELPA test coordinator
- *Chair of Response to Intervention (RTI) team
- *Co-Chair School Improvement Team
- *Co-Chair of District Common Writing and Reading Assessments Team 2010-2011
- *Co-wrote District Common Writing and Reading Assessments
- *Responsible for analyzing data in order to organize intervention groups
- *Collaborates with RtI team to develop and implement academic and behavior plans
- *Participates in Check In/Check Out to provide Positive Behavior Support (PBS) to at-risk students
- *Leads staff meetings on School Improvement
- *Provides professional development to staff, primarily on Units of Study using Backwards Design
- *Models best practices for staff
- *Presented "Digging Deeper in the Writer's Workshop" to all 2/3 grade teachers in district
- *Provided professional development to 3rd grade teachers on the administration of the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System and teaching of comprehension strategies
- * Led Teaching With Poverty in Mind six-week book study
- *Presented to parents at Kindergarten Round Up for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years
- *Generated parental involvement by facilitating Family Literacy Night and Young Author's Day

Wayne-Westland Community Schools Westland, MI
3 grade teacher, Hamilton Elementary (Title I Targeted Assistance School) Aug. '09-June '10

- *Developed and implemented daily lesson plans to challenge students of differing abilities in all curriculum areas
- *Collaborated and co-taught with support staff to implement push-in instructional strategies for certified students

- *Designed a balanced literacy program to include independent reading, small group instruction, and whole group instruction based on best practices
- *Used data from local and state assessments to drive instruction
- *Co-Chair School Improvement Team
- *Co-Chair Reading Month
- *Utilized ASK and LAPS videoconferencing to integrate technology in all content areas
- *Presented at Tech-In More
- *Responsible for preparing and facilitating Title I Family Nights
- *Defining Co-Teaching Workshop Elementary Representative
- *Administered MEAP

Wayne-Westland Community Schools

2/3 grade teacher, Vandenberg Elementary (Title I School)

Wayne, MI
Aug. '08-June '09

- *Developed and implemented daily lesson plans to challenge students of differing abilities in all curriculum areas
- *Used a variety of assessments and data to assess student progress
- * Actively participated in staff, grade level, and school improvement meetings
- *Co-taught Writing Workshop with Literacy Leader and Third Grade teacher
- * Taught after-school math group for at-risk students
- *Chaired African American History Month
- *Participated in LAPS videoconference
- * Presented at NCA data walls for School Improvement
- *Administered MEAP

Wayne-Westland Community Schools

3/4 grade teacher, Vandenberg Elementary (Title I School)

Wayne, MI
Aug. '07-June '08

- * Developed and implemented daily lesson plans to challenge students of differing abilities in all curriculum areas
- * Maintained vital records on student progress
- * Collaborated with principal, staff, and parents to instill a strong commitment to meeting educational goals established for each child
- * Taught after-school MEAP writing group for at-risk students
- *Presented at NCA data walls for School Improvement
- *Administered MEAP

Wayne-Westland Community Schools

Media Information Teacher (K-5), Kettering Elementary

Westland, MI
Aug. '02-June '07

- * Taught technology as a tool to find, access, use, and synthesize information
- *Aided teachers in technology-enhanced instruction
- *Helped to create the Media Information Curriculum using the Information Literacy Standards and Grade Level Content Expectations
- * Wrote and received technology grants through the Foundation for the Improvement of Instruction
- * Presented on technology in the classroom at district in-services three years in a row
- *Designed a developmentally appropriate website to support the needs of diverse learners for Tenure Goal
- *Served on the School Improvement Team

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Head Teacher, Preschool (3.5-5 year olds)

Ann Arbor, MI
Sept. '01-June '02

- * Implemented a play based curriculum through the development of "Unit Themes"
- *Provided early literacy instruction

**RELATED
EXPERIENCE**

The Produce Station

Director of Children's Community Garden

Ann Arbor, MI
Summer '09-Fall '11

- *Developed and taught science lessons to children age 5-11

Family Learning Institute

Reading Coach

Ann Arbor, MI
Feb.-May '02

- * Worked with students to develop reading skills, strategies, and self confidence

YMCA Camp Birkett/Cedar Lake

Ann Arbor, MI

Site Program Director

April-Aug. '01

- * Directed and oversaw daily operations of camp
- * Coordinated staff schedules and camp programming

**PROFESSIONAL
GROWTH
ACTIVITIES**

<u>Mosaic of Thought</u> Book Study	April 2012
<u>Teaching With Intention</u> Workshop with Debbie Miller	March 2012
<u>Teaching With Poverty in Mind</u> Book Study Facilitator	Feb. 2012
<u>Teaching With Poverty in Mind</u> Book Study Attendant	Jan. 2012
Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) Training Westland, MI	March 2011
“Words Their Way” Workshop Westland, MI	March 2011
Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning Conf. Detroit, MI	March 2011
Michigan Reading Association Conference Grand Rapids, MI	March 2011
Reading Strategies to Motivate Learners Workshop Livonia, MI	Feb. 2011
“A Day with Lucy Calkins” Workshop Novi, MI	Nov. 2010
Write from the Beginning Thinking Map Training	Sept. 2010
<u>The Daily Five</u> K-2 Training Westland, MI	August 2010
<u>Blueprint for Exceptional Writing</u> Training Westland, MI	July 2010
<u>The Adaptive School</u> Training Wayne, MI	June 2010
ASCD Summer Conference Orlando, FL	June 2010
Smartboard Trainer of Trainers	May 2010
Rigor & Relevance Training International Center for Education	May 2010
Michigan Reading Association Conference Detroit, MI	March 2010
Visit to Coolidge Elementary in Livonia, MI to observe balanced literacy instruction	Feb. 2010
Guided Reading Staff Development Hamilton Elementary	Nov. 2009
Participated in Book Study: <u>Making the Most of Small Groups: Differentiation for All</u> and <u>Practice With Purpose: Literacy Work Stations</u>	Nov. 2009
Thinking Map Training at Taft Elementary	Sept. 2009
Michigan Reading Association Conference Grand Rapids, MI	March 2009
Thinking Map Training at Vandenberg Elementary	Winter 2009
Collaborated with Consultant Bridget Regan to develop Writing Workshop lessons and observe model lessons at Vandenberg Elementary	Winter 2009
Thinking Map Training	Fall 2008
Writing Workshop Training	2007-2008
Peer Response to MEAP Writing RESA	June 2007
<u>Better Answers</u> Staff Development Hamilton Elementary	April 2007
Book Study: <u>Creating Classrooms Where Teachers Love to Teach and Children Love to Learn</u> Kettering Elementary	Winter 2007
6 +1 Traits Staff Development Hamilton Elementary	Fall 2005
Michigan Area Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) Conference	March '03, '04, '05
BER Using Innovative Technology Projects to Strengthen Content Area Learning	Oct. 2004
BER Reading More and Loving It	Oct. 2002
MLPP Training Wayne Westland Schools	2002-2003

REFERENCES

Ms. Kate Brohl-Principal of Schweitzer Elementary School
2601 Treadwell, Westland, MI 48186 (734) 419-2750
brohlk@wwcs.k12.mi.us

Mr. Aaron Baughman-Director of Professional Development
36745 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185 (734) 419-2098
baughmana@wwcs.k12.mi.us

Mrs. Bridget Regan-Principal of Cass Elementary School
34633 Munger, Livonia, MI 48154 (734) 744-2695
bregan@livoniapublicschools.org

Lora L. Boka

Motto: "I Believe In Leading By Example"

Vision

To continually improve the quality of education by providing instructional leadership for research based programs, fostering a safe environment conducive to learning, and championing parental involvement. In addition, to ensure a school culture that encourages continuous improvements for teachers and students through open communication with colleagues, students, and the community.

Core Competencies

- **Educational Administration, Special Education State and Federal Mandates and NCLB Regulations**
- **Instructional Best-Practices**
- **Positive Behavior Supports, Guidelines and Interventions**
- **Parental & Community Relations**
- **State Assessment Planning, Preparation, and Curriculum Development**
- **Professional Development**
- **Staff Planning and Evaluation**
- **Response to Intervention**
- **Data-based Decision Making**
- **Classroom Management**

Experience

Livonia Public Schools, Livonia MI

- 2006 to Present Elementary Program Specialist
- 2009 to Present District Coach for Positive Behavior Supports
- 2005-2007 Galileo Leadership Academy
- 2001-2006 Elementary Teacher Consultant
- 1996-2001 Team Leader, Cooper Center Cross Categorical Program
- 1992-1996 Special Education Teacher, Cooper Center Cross Categorical Program

Key Contributions and Skills:

- Leadership in development and support to all elementary cross-categorical classrooms, two multi-district AI Center programs and elementary Resource Rooms.
- Knowledgeable of current trends in education and capable of motivating staff to try new, creative techniques to continually improve teaching skills.
- Leadership in professional development for curriculum implementation, behavior plans and guidelines, medical trainings, health care guidelines, and classroom management.
- Expertise in early intervention for improving academic achievement and increasing emotional well-being for all students.
- Excellent communication skills to facilitate parent and staff meetings, including those involved with special education rules, plans and regulations.
- Served on various district committees, including CIMS, Health Care Guidelines, Center Referral Process, Special Education Handbook, and Center Program Report Card.
- Served on several Wayne RESA committees, including Guidelines for Behavior Interventions 2008, Positive Behavior Supports Coach, EGLCE Curriculum, and Assessment Planning.
- Collaborated with Academic Services department chairs on curriculum needs and implementation for unique learners.

Education & Credentials

Wayne State University - Education Specialist Certificate, 2011

Major: General Administration & Supervision, Full Approval for Director and Supervisor of Special Education

Wayne State University – Master of Education, 1998

Major: Educational Leadership

Central Michigan University – Bachelors of Science in Special Education, 1991

Major: Emotional Impairments

Robert A. Witherspoon

PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVE

The objective is to gain an administrative position with Livonia Public Schools as an Upper Elementary School Assistant Principal.

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

Eastern Michigan University

Bachelor of Science, August 1998

Elementary K-5 All Subjects (K-8 Self CC)

Science (DX) 6-8, Social Studies (RX) 6-8

Wayne State University

Master's of Education, May 2009

Educational Leadership

CERTIFICATION

Michigan State Professional Teaching Certificate

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Livonia Public Schools

Fall 2000 – Present

Hull Elementary, Johnson Elementary

Fifth/Sixth Grade Teacher

-Preparation and delivery of Science, Social Studies, Math and Literacy instruction to students.

-Organization of educational field trips

-Organization of school activities

Literacy Leader

-Provide mentoring to colleagues in the area of literacy.

-Formulate assessments and analyze writing data used in school improvement.

-Conduct Inventory and order materials for the Literacy and Social Studies curriculum.

Camp Frost

Coordinator – Summer of 2009 & 2010.

-Organize and facilitate teaching staff.

-Create class and daily schedules

-Maintain communication between the camp and Transportation Dept., Food Service, and Central Office

-Formulate student progress reports

Lincoln Consolidated Public Schools

Fall 1998 – Spring 2000

Lincoln Middle School, Ypsilanti, MI

Seventh Grade Teacher

-Preparation and delivery of Math and Literacy instruction to students.

-Organization of educational field trips

ACTIVITIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

PROFESSIONAL:

- Michigan Reading Association
- Michigan High School Softball Coaches Association
- United Federation of Officials
- Johnson Upper Elementary Parent Teacher Association

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Hull Elementary

- Technology Committee
- School Improvement Committee

Johnson Elementary

- Literacy Leader
- School Improvement Team
- Camp Frost Coordinator (Title One enrichment camp)
- Acting Principal

COACHING EXPERIENCE

Livonia Public Schools

- Churchill High School, Football Coach Fall 2001-2007
- Stevenson High School, Head Softball Coach Spring 2002-Present
- Stevenson High School, Asst. Football Coach Fall 2011-Present

Lincoln Consolidated Public Schools

- Lincoln High School, Head Softball Coach Winter '98-Spring '00
- Lincoln Middle School, 7th Grade Volleyball Winter '98-Spring '00

Allen Park Public Schools

- Allen Park High School, Football Coach Fall 1993-Fall 2001
- Allen Park High School, Softball Asst. Coach Spring 1997

St. Francis Cabrini

- (Allen Park, Michigan)
- Cabrini Middle School Baseball H.C. Spring '91-Spring '95

INTERESTS

Traveling, Reading, Recreational Sports, Gardening

REFERENCES

Richard Steele, Principal, Johnson Upper Elementary
Linda Minsterman, Principal, Riley Upper Elementary
Lori Hyman, Athletic Director, Stevenson High School