

Lynda Suzanne Shanks

P.O. Box 8256
Colorado Springs, CO 80933 USA

www.2020nexus.org

Mobile 1.719.896.0421, Voicemail 1.719.357.5837

- ▶ Licensed Classroom Teacher
- ▶ Educational Technology Coach
- ▶ Legal and Administrative Support Specialist
- ▶ Highly Qualified in K-8 Social Studies, Language Arts, Technology

Teaching & Training Experience

Reading and Writing/English Teacher, 8th Grade

2010-Present Jenkins Middle School, Colorado Springs District 11, Colorado, USA

- ▶ Teach Remedial/RtI Intervention Reading, Pre-Advanced Placement Reading and Writing, and regular Reading And Writing
- ▶ Incorporate RtI, CQJ, ELL, Gifted, Special Ed, Differentiation, Data-Driven, Workshop, High-Engagement and other best practices in instructional strategies to reach all learners
- ▶ Coach colleagues/offer professional development in-services in use of teacher productivity tools and use of technology to improve instruction/achievement.

Digital Technologies Teacher-Trainer, 6th - 8th Grade

2001 -2010 Mann Middle School, Colorado Springs District 11, Colorado, USA

- ▶ Taught Computer Applications, Internet, and Keyboarding Electives full time, Grades 6-8 (elective courses on various educational and productivity applications, i.e. word processing, desktop publishing, slide presentations, spreadsheets and email. Also web 2.0 tools, internet research, web site evaluation, internet safety and web site design.).
- ▶ Member, Building Leadership Team & Technology Curriculum Chair.
- ▶ Coach colleagues/offer professional development in-services in use of teacher productivity tools and use of technology to improve instruction/achievement.
- ▶ Mentor several first-year and pre-service teachers.
- ▶ Sponsor Computer Club, Web Design Club, and Internet Café.
- ▶ Belong and serve: various professional organizations e.g. BAAC, PTSA, CSEA, ISTE, ICSS, CCE, etc.

Summer School Instructor

2001 - 2009 Mann and Russell Middle Schools, Colorado Springs District 11, Colorado, USA
Reading and Writing Interventions/Remediation

Facilitator, Trainer, Recruiter

2007 - Present Oracle Education Foundation, Worldwide

- ▶ Attend and Facilitate International 21st Century Learning Institutes
- ▶ Teach 21st Century Skills and Project-Based Learning instructional strategies to educators.
- ▶ Train & recruit for Oracle Education Foundation in schools, at professional conferences and online.
- ▶ Independent Contractor, Part-Time

K-8 Teacher-Leader Positions

- ▶ Emphasis on technology integration, diverse learners, and improving student achievement.
- ▶ Ability to work with at-risk, socio-economically privileged OR challenged, gifted, or special education.
- ▶ Curriculum Chair, English & Technology Departments, Curriculum Writer, Volunteer Committees, Community Service Team, etc.

2004 - 2001 El Paso County, Colorado

High Plains Elementary (5th Grade - All Subjects)
Emerson Middle School (6th Grade - Science and Social Studies)
Canon Elementary (6th Grade - All Subjects)
Calhan K-12 School (Several K - 8th Grade Subjects)
Rockrimmon Elementary (2nd Grade - All Subjects)

Other Areas of Expertise

- ▶ **Imaging Technician** 2008 - 2009 (Independent Contractor, Part-Time)
SAIC (Science Applications International Corporation), Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA
- ▶ **Legal Assistant, Freelance Paralegal** 1985-1997
Multiple Law Firms in Colorado Springs, Denver, and Aspen, Colorado, USA
- ▶ **Co-Owner, Small Businesses** 1984-1992
 - Audio Production, Editing, and Duplication, 10 years, Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA
 - Lawn Care and Snow Removal Business, 5 years, Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA
 - Property Management and Remodeling, 10 years, Colorado Springs, Colorado USA

Education

Master of Arts in Teaching, 1995 (Thesis/Emphasis: Computers in Education)

The Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO, USA

Bachelor of Arts in Communication, 1992

University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, CO

Continuing Education/Professional Development 1994 - Present

Over 120 graduate and in-service credit hours, predominantly in the areas of computer applications, online adult education, K-12 educational technology and K-12 social studies. Active participant in international online Professional Learning Networks.

Foreign Languages 1975 - Present

Spanish (minimal classroom use with ELL students/parents), French (partially fluent), Italian (survival/travel phrases only)

Home Economics & Business Undergraduate Coursework 1981 - 1983

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA

Pikes Peak Community College, Colorado Springs, CO

References/Recommendations

Mr. Scott Stanec
Principal, Mann Middle School
1001 E. Van Buren Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
1.719.328.2300

Mr. Jason TerHorst
Principal, Jenkins Middle School
6410 Austin Bluffs Parkway
Colorado Springs, CO 80923
1.719.328.5300

Mrs. Peggy Layh
Assistant Principal, Mann Middle School
1001 E. Van Buren Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
1.719.328.2300

Ms. Denise Hobbs
Senior Marketing Manager,
Oracle Education Initiatives
Albuquerque, NM, 87108, USA
1.505.255.2219

Ms. Staci Smith
Gifted and Talented Educator,
High Plains Elementary
7820 Brandy Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80920
1.719.548.4915

Ms. Heather Domangue
Library Media Technology Specialist,
Mann Middle School
1001 E. Van Buren Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
1.719.328.2300

Thank you,
Rusty Mooney
Rusty Mooney
Principal
Mann Middle School

Edward L. Paulovich
Edward L. Paulovich
Director of Human Resources
Colorado Springs School District #11

Kandy Claybaugh
Kandy Claybaugh
Technology Integration Coordinator
Colorado Springs School District 11

One of the hardest parts of being a teacher is differentiating instruction to accommodate the different learning levels for 30 students; Suzanne keeps each student working on areas that need improvement while continuing to teach her curriculum. Daily, students spend the first 15 minutes of their 45-minute class improving their typing skills, each at different levels. Suzanne gives each student time to show how far they have improved in their typing and overall computer skills.

I believe a good teacher is able to build excitement for learning, provide a place where students can ask questions and learn, and feel safe while being challenged. Ms. Shanks provides such a place, a place where students know they will have to work hard but also know that she cares about them and always pushes them to be better students. If you went into her class before school, you would see students making up missed assignments or working to improve their typing. If you came to her class after school, you would be part of the Computer Club, a club that allows students to help with the school's web-site or work with Power Point, Excel, or Word.

Suzanne is a leader in our school. With everything she does for kids, she still finds the time to assume other leadership roles as Technology Goal Team Manager, member of Mann's Building Leadership Team and a member of the BAAC committee. She attends most athletic events, either as a scorer or to support our student athletes, and even comes to help at each Band, Choir, and Orchestra concert at night. She is well respected by her teammates, colleagues, and parents. Parents know that she is an advocate for their child and will make decisions based on what is best for them and their education.

I have known Suzanne for the past five years as her Principal and as the Director of Human Resources for our district.

She varies direct instruction with independent instruction to constantly check for student understanding. Suzanne also differentiates instruction to meet the needs of all students in her classes. She makes learning fun! The atmosphere in her classroom is always pleasant and her lessons include activities that address the interest level of her students. Students feel safe and comfortable in her classroom to ask questions to help each other understand the presented concept.

Suzanne has the art of teaching! She has the ability to capture students' interests by using lesson prescits that pertain to the everyday lives of her students. She attempts to address all learning modalities of her students by presenting students with visual, auditory, tactual and kinesthetic examples when introducing and teaching her lessons to assure that all students learning needs are met.

Suzanne emphasizes on a daily basis that students are responsible and accountable for their learning. She utilizes student data folders, so students know exactly where they are in relation to their academic grade and their completion of assignments in her class. Suzanne always attempts to catch students doing something right and capitalizes on the positive to offer praise and suggestions for improvement.

I have known Suzanne Shanks for the past 5 years and she is a consummate teacher, learner, facilitator and incredibly adept at using technology to facilitate learning. Suzanne Shanks has taken a number of the technology integration classes the school district has offered and Suzanne is without a doubt the top of the class in ability to take new learning and incorporate the new skills into her classroom at Mann Middle School.

Not only is Suzanne Shanks a consummate learner in a face-to-face environment, she is also a wonderful on-line student as well. Suzanne has taken online classes offered by PBS and District 11 and as always, she was a stellar student. Suzanne was easy to engage, and was wonderful at capturing the interest of other students in the class. Her comments to other students in the online class often attracted other teachers to the conversation that had been minimally participating.

If I had a chance to hire Suzanne Shanks as a teacher or facilitator, I would not pass up the opportunity.