

JULIE M. HARRIS

Teacher, Early Childhood Special Education
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PROFESSIONAL COMMITMENT

Empower students with disabilities and their families to use technology to better communicate with one another, interact with their environment and community, and access educational materials. Promote the integration of technology with my colleagues in the special education field to better assist their students.

STRENGTHS

- Lifelong love and natural rapport with children
- Track record of successful leadership and reputation for reliability, creativity, and tenacity
- Positive, hopeful enthusiasm that overcomes the most difficult obstacles
- Polished communication skills honed in public service and overseas living experiences
- Flair for technology and high proficiency in Microsoft Office and Internet applications
- Basic knowledge of assistive technology and programs such as Board Maker
- Desire to continuing learning to better be able to assist others

EDUCATION

Graduate Coursework in Educational Technology Certification, In Progress
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

Graduate Coursework in Autism Certification, 2010
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

Masters of Teaching, Early Childhood Special Education, 2006
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

Bachelor of Science, Communication Sciences and Disorders
Extensive coursework in Special Education, 2005
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Pre-School Special Education Teacher – Penn Laird, Virginia 2008-Present
Cub Run Elementary School, Rockingham County Public Schools

Create lesson plans and individualized activities for pre-school children with special challenges, chart progress and maintain records. , Create behavior management programs, schedules, work with teaching teams of educators and parents. Prepare Individualized Education Plans. Collaborate with general education preschool teachers for inclusive services. Use of classroom technology to include computer, SmartBoard, document camera, tablets, various assistive technology devices.

Assistant Director, Brainstorm Conference- Harrisonburg, Virginia February-May 2016
James Madison University

Organize information needed by the Brainstorm Committee to complete planning of the Brainstorm Conference. Assist in set up and overseeing the events of the day to ensure the conference ran smoothly.

Clinical Faculty—MidValley Consortium 2012-Present
Trained to be a mentor for student teachers from local Universities and Colleges.

Volunteer and United Way Coordinator—Penn Laird, Virginia 2011-2014
Cub Run Elementary School, Rockingham County Public Schools

Keep track of volunteer hours logged every month and submit it to Central Office. Coordinate elections for Volunteer of the Year and Volunteer Appreciation events for Cub Run Elementary. Plan, coordinate, and implement fundraising efforts for United Way at Cub Run Elementary.

Pre-School Special Education Teacher – Elkton, Virginia 2005-2008

Elkton Elementary School, Rockingham County Public Schools

Create lesson plans and individualized activities for pre-school children with special challenges, chart progress and maintain records. , Create behavior management programs, schedules, work with teaching teams of educators and parents. Prepare Individualized Education Plans.

Language Development Instructor – Harrisonburg, Virginia 2007-Present

Work with family of child with cochlear implant on language development in their home. Develop lessons and games to work with the child, one-on-one, to increase vocabulary and learn proper production of speech sounds.

Member, IPOP Team – Rockingham County, Virginia 2007- 2009

Rockingham County Public Schools

Contributing member of Inclusive Placement Opportunities for Preschoolers grant to research, develop and implement an inclusive preschool model in Rockingham County.

Certificates and Training

CPR Training Current

First Aid Training Current

Dr. Temple Grandin: Understanding Autism—Charlottesville, Virginia November 2015

A talk given by Dr. Temple Grandin “built on her experience of being diagnosed with autism as a child to explore how her mind works to solve problems that neurotypical brains might miss. She makes the case that the world needs people on the autism spectrum: visual thinkers, pattern thinkers, verbal thinkers, and all kinds of smart geeky kids.”

Integrating Math & Literacy in the PreK Classroom—Waynesboro, Virginia February 2015

“How can math and literacy be taught together in the PreK classroom? In this workshop, we will answer this question by exploring the many ways literacy can be a context for mathematical problem solving. Participants will engage in and reflect on developmentally appropriate, integrated activities that can be used with PreK students to learn both literacy and math skills and concepts. Through purposeful play, read alouds, songs, games, writing and drawing, participants will analyze the mathematical and literacy processes they used as well as the concepts and procedures they learned. A make and take activity will be included in the afternoon. Participants will leave with activities for whole group, small group, and centers that they can use immediately.”

Visual Phonics—Harrisonburg, Virginia June 2012

Learning visual phonics to help give a visual for letter sounds to help students with hearing impairments and developmental delays better learn letter sounds.

Feeding Children With Disabilities—JMU T/TAC Oct-March 2007/2008

A four part training:

Part I: A Basic Overview of Feeding and Oral Motor Skills

Part II: There’s More to Eating Than Taste: Gaining Better Understanding of Behaviors Associated with Sensory-based Feeding Disorders

Part III: Planning for Students with Complex Health Care Needs and Students Who Receive Tube Feedings in School

Part IV: Putting the “FUNC” Back in Functional: Understanding the Role that Gross Motor Skills Play in Oral Motor Skill Development
2.8 Continuing Education Credits received.

Inclusive Placement Opportunities for Preschoolers—JMU T/TAC Oct. 2007
Participated in day long training on setting up an Inclusive Preschool Program.

Virginia Department of Social Services Medication Administration Training Program May 2007
Trained to administer medicine under the new, July 2007, Virginia laws.

Understanding the Spectrum and the Strategies That Work – JMU T/TAC April 2007
Attended workshop at James Madison University.

Fundamentals of Autism – George Mason University April 2007
Completed nine hours of web based course.

Virtus “Protecting God’s Children” – Harrisonburg, Virginia July 2005
Child abuse protection training

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Virginia Professional Educators 2011-Present

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Vice President, Hurricane Football Club—Elkton, Virginia Fall 2015-August 2016
Work with other board members in the start up year of a soccer academy. Help organize fundraisers, plan events, and create bylaws as the academy works to become a non profit organization.

Arc of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County Community Forum Committee June/July 2014
Work with other professionals in the community on the committee to plan and organize a Community Forum for the Arc of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County.

PTA Board Member, Cub Run Elementary—Penn Laird, Virginia 2012-2014
2012-2013- Vice Present of Membership in charge of PTA memberships. Working with the secretary to create the directory. Working with the rest of the board to plan and implement fundraisers to include a spring carnival.
2013-2014- President. Lead board meetings and general PTA meetings. Rewrite and put up to vote updated bylaws. Oversee the year’s activity of the PTA. Work with the rest of the board to plan and implement programs and fundraisers to include a spring carnival.

Soccer Coach – Harrisonburg, Virginia Fall 2007
Coached third and fourth grade soccer team. Arranged practice, helped referee games.

Religious Education Teacher - Harrisonburg, Virginia/Ramstein, Germany 1999-2009
Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, 4th Grade, 5th Grade, High School
Volunteer 2-4 hours per week during regular school years to plan and present religious education curricula to students. Maintain ongoing communication with parents, organize and lead children in special seasonal activities.

Assistant Producer, Administrative Assistant – Ramstein, Germany 1999-2001
Razz-A-Ma-Tazz Family Theater

Volunteered more than 400 hours as actress, production assistant, lighting specialist and set designer for award-winning children's musical theater company on Ramstein Air Base, Germany.