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Andrew Prowten
Peer Review Program Coordinator
Vermont Agency of Education
1 National Life Drive, Davis 5
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501

Re: Middle Grades Mathematics Endorsement

Dear Mr. Prowten:

In my 12 years of teaching mathematics to combined classes of fifth and sixth graders, and 5 years as an assistant in middle school math classes, I have developed creative pedagogical skills. While teaching to the Common Core standards, I design lessons and activities to support and challenge the range of skills and learning styles present in these young adolescent students.

I am applying for a middle grades math endorsement because in 2021 Addison Central Supervisory District sixth grade students will move to the middle school, and I want to teach math at the middle school level.

Teaching math at my small school has required me to be flexible in thinking. Having taught the Common Core skills and concepts to a combined fifth and sixth grade means that when that group of fifth graders becomes sixth graders, my math plan needs to be different. I address that by assessing skill and concept knowledge at the beginning of the year and at the commencement of each unit, and then I design new units and lessons to support more and deeper experience with the Common Core standards. Our shift this past year to remote learning has increased my flexibility in designing our lessons.

My test scores and letters of recommendation indicate that I have the academic and professional skills to teach middle school math. My lesson plans indicate that I incorporate creativity and student voice and choice into our activities. My teaching log and my year-end evaluation indicate my responsiveness to students' needs for challenge, support, varied approaches, and novelty.

I look forward to discussing my application for the middle grades mathematics endorsement.

Sincerely,

Christina Wadsworth