

September 2, 2010

Dear Mr. Haupt:

I would like to begin by introducing myself and expressing my appreciation that you have volunteered to be a cooperative teacher. I am excited to get started and looking forward to a great semester and learning a lot from you.

My name is Tricia Wilson and I am a graduate student in the College of Education at Lehigh University. I am studying for my Masters degree in Secondary Education with a concentration in Mathematics. I am also a full-time software programmer for Lehigh University's Library and Technology Services Department where I work on integrating the enterprise data systems with multiple other systems and applications on campus. The purpose of this letter is to introduce myself and give you a few details about my background.

I became interested in teaching when I started officiating field hockey and realized that I wanted to make a change in professions when I started coaching field hockey and softball several years ago. That is when I changed jobs from PPL to Lehigh University and enrolled in the Masters program there. Mathematics seemed like the logical choice since I majored in Computer Science and Financial Economics with a minor in Mathematics as an undergraduate at Moravian College. As a programmer, I am intertwined in mathematics all the time, and so I am really interested in trying to teach mathematics in a more integrated and hands-on way, as opposed to the silo in which I learned mathematics. I feel as though students might be more successful in mathematics if they can see and apply it in other areas, especially ones of interest to them.

It has been about four years since I started the Lehigh program, and its completion is finally in sight. I am very excited to finally really get into the classroom. There have been several twists and turns in the middle, most notably two beautiful children as I am the mother of a three and a half year old daughter and three month old son who make me melt. So as you can imagine, my schedule can be somewhat hectic, but I try to be as flexible as possible.

In closing, I have listed my contact information below and I want to reiterate again my appreciation to you for this opportunity and I look forward to an exciting semester.

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Sincerely,

Tricia Wilson