

Whitney Cotton

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Professional Experience

NWOSU - Instructor of Education

August 2022 - PRESENT, Alva, OK

My duties include instruction in teacher prep courses with an emphasis in special education and director of the Literacy Center.

Enid Public Schools - Special Education Teacher

August 2020 - May 2022,, Enid, OK

During my time at Enid Public Schools, I taught direct instruction geography, history and study skills to students with qualifying disabilities in grades 6-8. I collaborated with parents, teachers and administrators to compose, conduct and implement Individualized Education Plans to assist students in meeting their educational needs.

NWOSU- Adjunct Professor of Education

February 2020 - July 2022, Alva, OK

When needed, I taught the courses Higher Education Philosophy and Practice and Students with Exceptionalities. When beginning this journey, I researched adult learning theories and designed my practice around these strategies.

Alva Public Schools - Teacher

August 2015 - May, 2020 Alva, OK

During my time at Alva Public Schools, I taught pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first grade. I collaborated with teachers from the same grade level as well as established vertical alignment to ensure continued student success.

Alva Head Start- Teacher/Director

August 2013 - May 2015, Alva, OK

While working at the Alva Head Start, I was the lead teacher in a classroom supporting the educational and developmental needs of children ranging in ages from 3-5. I also collaborated with and supervised other employees during this time. Additional duties included scheduling and planning parent and community involvement activities, scheduling professional development, and ensuring that the center was following predefined procedures and safety measures.

Woodward Head Start-Teacher

January 2011 - May 2012, Woodward, OK

During my time at the Woodward Head Start, I taught children ranging in ages from 3-5. I also collaborated with several other teachers responsible for the development of children's learning in the same age range.

Education

Currently - Capella University/Ed.D. Educational Leadership
Present, Minneapolis, MN

NWOSU / M. Ed. Educational Leadership
Spring 2018, Alva, OK

NWOSU / B. S. Elementary Education
Winter 2010, Alva, OK

Certifications

Elementary Principal (PK-8)
Early Childhood (PK-3)
Elementary Education (1-8)
Mild-Moderate Disabilities (PK-12)

Accomplishments

Nuts and Bolts Symposium, 2021

NW Regional Advisory Committee Member for Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness, 2017-2020

Participant in Alva's First Annual Internship in Collaboration with Oklahoma Autism Center and Early Foundations Center of Oklahoma University, 2019

Educational Leadership Internship, 2017

Alva School District Rising Star, 2017-2018

Enhancing Communication for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (MESA Project), 2017

Washington Early Childhood Center Rising Star, 2016-2017

Teaching with Best Practices (OPSRC), 2015

Classroom Management and Procedures (NWOSU), 2015

First Grade Foundations (Payne Education Center), 2015

References

Dr. Steven Mackie

*Professor of Education, Northwestern Oklahoma State University
John K. Martin Endowed Chair*

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