

CHRISTINE JOANNE SMITH

4 Brookside Drive Foxboro, Massachusetts 02035
508-838-9363 wheelock1992@yahoo.com

Education

Wheelock College

Boston, Massachusetts

Bachelor of Science

Major: Human Growth and Development, **Minor:** Elementary and Special Education

GPA: 3.800

Attended September 1988 to May 1992

Degree conferred May 1992

Wheelock College

Boston, Massachusetts

Master of Science

Major: School Leadership

GPA: 3.800

Attended September 1994 to August 1996

Degree conferred August 1996

Experience

Wachusett Regional Schools

Jul 2019 -

Administrator of Special Education

Mar 2023

Jefferson, MA

Wachusett Regional is a large regional school district with 13 schools serving over 7,000 students. The Administrator of Special Education works closely with all District-wide administrators, building principals, service providers, and families. Responsible for the implementation, evaluation, and coordination of all special education staff, programs, and services which include over 1300 students district-wide, 200 students in highly developed specialized programs, 215 paraprofessionals, 65 ABA PAs, and over 200 special education providers. Responsible for the development, implementation, and supervision of competitive grants, entitlement grants, and the local budget. During professional development sessions and during School Committee meetings, demonstrate the actualization of the alignment of district goals and the application of resources towards improvements to address district needs and State mandates. Directs district resources for in and out-of-district programs to meet the diverse needs of the students. Interacts and collaborates with community-based resources and community members to increase public participation in all aspects of special education, including but not limited to SEPAC. Executive member of bargaining teams for three unions.

Responsible for supporting our building principals and district leaders as they ensure that all teachers, including our special educators, are providing equitable access to high-quality instructional material that is research-based and has established clearly defined and well-communicated standards of growth for all students.

Reason for leaving: Found a position closer to home
Supervisor: Superintendent Dr. James Reilly (508-829-1670)
Experience Type: Professional/Work, Full-time
It is **OK** to contact this employer

Boston Public Schools

Mar 2023 -
Jan 2050

Assistant Director of Special Education
Roxbury, MA

Track, place and supervise the placement of 425+ students in out of district settings, collaborate with community agencies to ensure safe and cohesive transitions, collaborate with METCO regions and Boston Charter Schools. File Circuit Breaker. Ensure compliance of all Special Education timelines are well articulated. Partner with office of legal representation to position BPS with the most defensible IEP, PL and procedures.

Supervisor: Olga Garriga (617-635-9000)
Experience Type: Professional/Work, Full-time
It is **OK** to contact this employer

Sharon Public Schools

Aug 2018 -
Jun 2019

Interim Director of Student Services
Sharon, Massachusetts

Responsible for the implementation, evaluation, and coordination of all special education programs, nursing, counselors, and service providers. Responsible for the implementation and supervision of the budget and fiscal resources, including the management and facilitation of competitive and entitlement grants.

Reason for leaving: Sharon was seeking a one-year leader to stabilize the Special Education community while they completed the Tiered Focus Monitoring Review, experienced several central office leadership changes, and transitioned to new leadership in multiple schools. The position was an interim position. I declined moving forward.

Supervisor: Dr. Victoria Greer (781-784-1563)
Experience Type: Public School, Full-time
It is **OK** to contact this employer

Dover Sherborn Public Schools

Jul 2016 -
Aug 2018

Director of Special Education
Dover Massachusetts

Responsible for the implementation, evaluation, and coordination of all special education programs and service providers. Additionally, responsible for the coordination of Preschool and ESY. Responsible for the development, implementation, and supervision of the budget and fiscal resources. Align professional development resources and programs to address district needs and State mandates. Direct district resources for in and out-of-district programs to meet the diverse needs of the students.

Reason for leaving: Chose to leave to assist Sharon Public Schools through an interim year.

Supervisor: Andrew Keough (508-785-0036 X7115)
Experience Type: Public School, Full-time
It is **OK** to contact this employer

Lakeville-Freetown Regional School

Jul 2013 -
Jun 2016

Director of Student Services

Lakeville, MA

Responsible for the implementation, evaluation, and coordination of all special education programs and service providers. Additionally, responsible for the coordination of Preschool, McKinney-Vento students, nursing, counseling, and ESY. Responsible for the development, implementation, and supervision of the budget and fiscal resources. Additionally, responsible for the management and facilitation of competitive and entitlement grants are used equitably for meaningful professional development and to provide resources and programs to address district needs and State mandates. Create in-district resources and collaborate with out-of-district programs to meet the diverse needs of the students.

Reason for leaving: Seeking employment in a larger public school district that fully incorporates my leadership talents from varied settings.

Supervisor: Richard Medeiros (508-892-2000 X1711)

Experience Type: Public School, Full-time

It is **OK** to contact this employer

Norwood Public Schools

Feb 2012 -

Special Education Coordinator and OOD Coordinator

Jun 2013

Norwood, MA

Evaluate, facilitate, and supervise the implementation of specialized services for students identified in special education and placed in or out of district. Allocate fiscal and personnel resources to meet the needs identified per each individualized education plan. Design, supervise and implement the continuum of services for students. Manage and maintain all files and associated paperwork.

Reason for leaving: Promotional opportunity

Supervisor: Joyce Onischewski (781-440-5867)

Experience Type: Public School, Full-time

It is **OK** to contact this employer

Griswold Public Schools

May 2001 -

Team Chair (PPT) and Spec. Ed Teacher

Jun 2005

Griswold, CT

- Facilitated and recorded over 600 Planning and Placement Team meetings
- Traveled out of district and out of state to conduct team meetings for Griswold students in private out-of-district placements.
- Wrote and won funding twice for a three-year grant to support the professional development of teaching assistants throughout the district
- implemented the laws and regulations of the State of Connecticut regarding Special and Regular Education

CLASSROOM

- Wrote all functional, transition, recreational, vocational, and advocacy curricula for all 9-12 students.
- Supervised and collected data on student growth, progress, and access
- Directed staff to participate in the curriculum and behavior programs
- Developed inclusion opportunities
- Developed three functional work programs in the classroom, 1. children's clothing exchange program, 2. cake baking, 3. balloonograms
- coached speed skating for Special Olympics
- ran school store at football games

Reason for leaving: The team chair job was eliminated in June 2003, and I took a classroom position at the HS as a life skills teacher.

Supervisor: Madeline Illinger (860-376-7640)
Experience Type: Public School, Full-time
It is **OK** to contact this employer

Boston Public Schools

Aug 1992 -
Feb 2013

Special Ed. Teacher + Dir. Spec. Ed

ECC, Elementary School, Middle School, and High School

I began my teaching career in Boston Public Schools in 1992 as a Special Education Teacher in a Middle School assigned to a classroom for students with significant behavioral disabilities. I was responsible for writing all of the curricula.

1999-2000 PTC class at Elementary School to develop early literacy skills. 2000-2006 outside of BPS

2007-2012 HS as School Based Special Ed Director facilitating inclusion, small learning communities, Outward Bound, Successful creation of MCAS competency portfolios in Math, Physics, and Biology.

Fully trained on the new SEIMS system. Collaborate with outside agents such as MRC, Strive, and Easter Seals to ensure the execution and implementation of post-secondary transition goals. Facilitated small group faculty sessions leading to accreditation through NEASC. BPS reorganized these positions. Sept 2011-Feb. 2013-ECC Team Chair at two of BPS small Early Childhood buildings. Facilitating meetings for students as they transitioned into BPS for the first time as early learners from birth to three programs.

Reason for leaving: Left BPS to find leadership role as a district Special Ed Director

Supervisor: Nadia Cyprien (617-635-9865)

Experience Type: Public School, Full-time

It is **OK** to contact this employer

Skills and Trainings

Success for All- Reading and literacy program

CPI trained

Trained in all ELL categories-2011

SEI endorsement



Wachusett Regional School District

Holden, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, Sterling

April 21, 2022

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter in support of Christine Smith's application for the position as Elementary Principal for the Foxborough Public Schools. Ms. Smith is currently the Administrator of Special Education for the Wachusett Regional School District, a five town regional school district in Central Massachusetts. Wachusett is a school district comprising 13 schools, with a student population of almost 7,000 students.

Ms. Smith joined the administrative team at Wachusett in July 2019. Just a few short months later, Ms. Smith helped keep our district moving forward during the disruption brought on by the pandemic. During this time, Christine has become well equipped to deal with the many components, students, families, and employees that make up such a large school district. While the leadership roles in school administration have had to shift and adapt since March of 2020, Ms. Smith has been flexible, has been willing to adjust to meet the needs of the District under the "new normal," and has been an important member of the WRSD executive staff.

Ms. Smith serves as the liaison between the Wachusett Special Education Parent Advisory Council and the district. Wachusett's SEPAC is an involved and very active council and Ms. Smith's support and encouragement of the work of this group is commendable. She regularly participates in SEPAC's virtual and in-person meetings, and she keeps in contact with the SEPAC officers, lending a hand and offering assistance when needed.

Ms. Smith is conscious and aware of the importance of being fiscally cautious and weighing the benefits of serving students against the financial constraints of a school system's budget. She has assisted in the management of several large grants and has been an integral part of developing a vision for special education. Ms. Smith is working with members of our executive staff as we are developing the FY23 budget for approval in May by the towns of Holden, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, and Sterling.

Ms. Smith is a strong candidate for your position and I fully support her candidacy. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Darryll McCall, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Wachusett Regional School District

February 23, 2021

I have had the pleasure of working closely with Chris Smith in my role as Deputy Superintendent for the Wachusett Regional School District. During our time working together, she has distinguished herself as a hardworking, intelligent, and resourceful professional who is able to juggle multiple responsibilities at the same time. She has a deep understanding of special education law and programs, the budget process, but more importantly, is a person who truly cares about students. She regularly displays a capacity to balance the needs of parents, staff, the school, and the district to reach solutions that better serve students.

Chris is forward thinking and is not afraid to make tough decisions. Her integrity and dedication are constantly on display. She has a moral compass that steers her in the right direction, and she keeps information confidential. Chris takes pride in her work and this is evident in a variety of situations, whether it be preparing a School Committee presentation, training teachers on a particular topic, or advocating for a student.

Chris is a key member of our Central Office leadership team. She has personally planned a variety of professional development initiatives for both teachers and paraprofessionals. She is comfortable talking in public and regularly provides reports and presentations to the School Committee on a variety of topics. She is well spoken, confident, and can handle tough conversations.

Chris is a caring, dedicated person, who does not shy away from a challenge. More importantly, she can be relied upon in a tight situation, as evidenced by her helping out at a school during a recent COVID outbreak and jumping in to direct traffic and parents during a school emergency evacuation.

Chris has a personal drive that is to be admired. She has a knack for seeing the bigger picture without losing track of the reasons behind an initiative. Chris is a key member of our budget development team, our negotiations team, and is part of the Central Office group that regularly meets with the local educator association. Through her outgoing personality, she quickly ingrained herself in the district culture and, if she leaves, will be missed.

Chris has the drive, intelligence, and resourcefulness one looks for in a successful district administrator. Her wealth of experiences and unwavering focus on students make her a strong leader as well. Based on my 36 years of experience in public education, with the last 25 being as a Central Office administrator, I believe that Chris is a very strong candidate and would be a great Director of Student Support Services for the Millis Public Schools. If you wish to speak further about Chris, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Berlo".

Robert Berlo
Deputy Superintendent
Wachusett Regional School District

November 17, 2021

I had the pleasure of working closely with Chris Smith in my former role as Deputy Superintendent for the Wachusett Regional School District until June of this past year. During our time working together, she distinguished herself as an intelligent and resourceful leader. She has the ability to juggle multiple responsibilities at the same time, has a deep understanding of special education law and programs and the budget process, but more importantly, is a person who truly cares about students. She regularly displays a capacity to balance the needs of parents, staff, the school, and the district to reach solutions that ultimately better serve students.

Chris is forward thinking yet is not afraid to make tough decisions. Her integrity and dedication are constantly on display. She has a strong moral compass that steers her in the right direction, especially important when overseeing over 1,000 students and over 250 staff spread across 13 schools. Chris takes pride in her work and this is evident in a variety of situations, whether it be speaking to the School Committee, negotiating with a union, training teachers on a particular topic, or advocating for a student. She is a devoted supporter of diversity and equity.

Chris has an outgoing, friendly disposition and is yet willing to ask tough questions or to advocate for her staff and our special education students. During the closing of the Wachusett schools during the pandemic, Chris led a variety of meetings with staff to troubleshoot how to best support students and families while we were remote and also worked to ensure that our special education staff had the necessary materials and training to allow them to ultimately meet with success.

Chris is a key member of the Central Office leadership team. She has been involved in teacher negotiations, personally planned a variety of professional development initiatives for both teachers and paraprofessionals, written a variety of grants, and been part of the budget development process. She is comfortable talking in public and regularly provides reports and presentations to the School Committee on a variety of topics. She is well spoken, confident, and can handle tough conversations.

Chris is a caring, dedicated person, who does not shy away from a challenge. More importantly, she can be relied upon in a tight situation, as evidenced by her helping out at a school during a recent COVID outbreak and jumping in at another school to direct traffic and parents during an emergency evacuation.

Chris has a personal drive that is to be admired. She has a knack for seeing the bigger picture without losing track of parent concerns or the underlying reasons behind an initiative. Chris is the type of person who can lead change, while giving credit to others. Chris is a key member of our budget development team, our negotiations team, and is part of the Central Office group that regularly meets with the local educator association. Through her outgoing personality, she is able to quickly integrate into a new culture and, if she leaves, will be missed.

Chris has the drive, intelligence, and resourcefulness one looks for in a successful district administrator. Her wealth of experiences and unwavering focus on students make her a strong leader as well. Based on my 37 years of experience in public education, with the last 26 being as a Central Office administrator, I believe that Chris is a very strong candidate and would be a great Executive Director for the LABBB Educational Collaborative.

Sincerely,

Robert Bork