

Francis Farrell Kelly

8520 Lancashire Dr
Springfield, VA 22151

512-567-5309
ffk6v@virginia.edu

PHILOSOPHY: Middle school students have a lot of learning to do. They need to learn how to define themselves, move in society and begin to detach from the nest of their family. Schools should provide a haven for all of this nonacademic learning to take place in an environment of relative safety and autonomy, but should also require students to tackle academic ideas and content that offer new sorts of complexity. It's important to give students the chance to play with ideas – to experiment with new ways of thinking about the world as they simultaneously try on new and different identities. The best teaching is based on high expectations and the opportunity for safe experimentation and occasional failure in a collaborative environment. We should give students opportunity to connect ideas across disciplines, and to investigate how they build the schema that allows them to understand the world. We should challenge them to not just accept new information but to question and make sense of it. We should earn their respect by respecting their thinking, and foster their intellect by challenging them to think deeply and ethically, connecting their classroom learning to the world in which they live. These aren't just 21st century skills or modes of thought; they are timeless and lifelong.

CERTIFICATIONS:

Google Certified Educator	2020
National Board Certified Teacher, English Language Arts/Early Adolescent	2017-Present
Certificate in Gifted Education	2013
English Secondary Education, 6-12	2008
Social Studies Secondary Education, 6-12	2008

EDUCATION:

<u>University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA</u>	
M.T. in English and Social Studies, Secondary Education Certification	2008
2007 Joan Larie Bell Scholar	
M.A. in English	2000
B.A. in English	1998
Echols Scholar, Multiple Dean's List commendations	

TEACHING

<u>Teacher</u>	2007-Present
----------------	--------------

EXPERIENCE:

Falls Church City Public Schools, VA	8 th Grade Humanities (English/History)	2019-Present
Teacher of the Year, 2018	8 th Grade World History/Geography I	2017-2021
	8 th Grade General and Honors English	2013-2017
	6 th Grade Language Arts and US History	2008-2013
	11 th Grade Honors American Literature	2007-2008
Albemarle County Public Schools, VA		
• Helped all classes to achieve standardized test pass rates of 95%-100%, with advanced pass rates of between 35 and 83%.		
• <u>Differentiation and innovation:</u>		
▪ Used a wide variety of media and methods to teach literature and writing to students with a large range of needs in disparately composed classes.		
▪ Collaborated in a coteaching environment to ensure solutions for student needs in ESL and Special Education.		
▪ Employed mastery learning practices to ensure student attainment of robust analytical skills in the study of literature and United States history.		
▪ Worked to develop Project Based Learning opportunities to combine authentic assessments with content mastery in English and Social Studies – examples include Muckraking research projects, and persuasive oratory in the role of Greek Gods.		
▪ Integrated Google Apps and other technologies into the classroom to better provide students with personalized learning opportunities.		
• <u>Curriculum development:</u>		
▪ Honors 11 American Studies curriculum		
▪ Gifted Curriculum for 6 th graders designed around a concept-centered, cross-curricular approach.		
▪ 8 th grade International Relations and Game Theory curriculum.		
▪ Used extensive content knowledge in history and literature to develop an intensive, writing-centered, Honors 8 English curriculum tracing the history of English language and literature from the classical era to the Renaissance.		
▪ Worked with colleagues to adapt English curriculum to Middle Years Programme structure as part of the adoption of MYP in Falls Church City Schools.		

- World History and Geography I curriculum revamp, organized around a skills-based, concept-driven approach.
- Built a differentiated Humanities curriculum for 8th grade combining World History I and Language Arts in a single double-blocked class that explored thematic and cultural connections between historical and modern eras using primary and secondary sources, as well as world literature.

Tutoring:

- Provided individualized writing tutoring to students, to help them successfully prepare for application to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology and other competitive high schools.
- Developed individualized curricula to tutor students in reading comprehension and writing to remediate skill deficits.

**TEACHER
LEADERSHIP
AND
COMMITTEES**

- Falls Church City Education Association

Building Representative	<i>2009-2014, Present</i>
President	<i>2017-2022</i>
Vice President	<i>2014-2017</i>

 - Worked as a liaison between building and district administration and staff, and advocated for professional and support staff.
 - With FCCEA, developed mentorship program in conjunction with FCCPS for all new professional staff to help acclimate them to FCCPS and its procedures and customs. *2017-2018*
 - FCCEA Delegate to the 2017 National Education Association Delegate Assembly *July, 2017*
- Middle Years Programme Personal Project Coordinator *2017-2018*
 - As the inaugural coordinator, worked collaboratively with a co-coordinator and staff to develop the logistics to organize and support authentic projects driven by student interest for over 200 students and 150 faculty advisors, ensuring the program's fidelity to International Baccalaureate expectations while remaining responsive to individual student needs.
- Individuals and Societies Collaborative Teacher Leader *2017-2021*
 - Worked with high school department heads and CTLs and Individuals and Societies teachers to implement the triennial plan for the school district and build vertically aligned curriculum.
 - Served as a liaison between central office and school staff to communicate and guide implementation of district policy.
 - Led professional development on MYP Assessment practices.
 - Performed Administrative duties for the Middle School Individuals and Societies department.
- Mary Ellen Henderson PTA Board *2013-2018*
 - Served as teacher liaison and advisor to PTA Executive Board
- Advisory Committees:
 - Vice Chair, FCCPS Professional Employee Advisory Committee – “PEAC” *2014-present*
Advocated for professional staff and advised district administration on staffing, administrative, program and logistical issues affecting professional staff across the division.
 - Digital Learning Team *2011-2020*
Worked to find innovative uses for technology to enhance learning, and to provide technology training to colleagues. Attended the 2014, 2015 and 2016 EdTechTeam Northern Virginia Summit featuring Google for Education to develop new ways to incorporate Google tools in the classroom. Led various staff developments on the use of Google Forms and integrating Schoology in classroom practice.
 - Hiring Committees *various*
Served as a member of many hiring committees for English and History teachers at Mary Ellen Henderson, as well as Administrative Leadership at Mary Ellen Henderson and in the FCCPS district at large.
 - Middle Years Programme Learning Committee *2013-2015*
Collaborated with the MYP coordinator and other staff members to develop and execute initial implementation of MYP. Toured MYP schools and attended extensive professional development to learn about and teach MYP practices.
 - Mary Ellen Henderson Motto, Vision and Mission Committee *2013-2014*
Developed the school's motto, vision and mission statements.
 - Thomas Jefferson High School Application Reader *2012*