

The field of education is my life, and this vocation has led me to become a lifelong learner. Pursuing doctoral graduate studies at St. John's University will enable me to further develop this ongoing commitment to learning and teaching.

Since graduating from Loyola College, Maryland as an elementary education major, I have been employed in the Northport-East Northport School District for the past 12 years. For the first six years, Ocean Avenue Elementary School was my "home," working in both inclusion and non-inclusion settings at the primary and intermediate grade level. During this time, I received a Master's degree in Instructional Technology at the New York Institute of Technology. These studies not only broadened my teaching techniques and provided me with enrichment activities, but also gave me the opportunity to research best practices in the use of integrating technology into the curriculum.

Desiring more of a leadership role, I pursued an Advanced Master's degree in Administration from Stony Brook University. At its completion, I accepted a position as Northport's School District's Elementary Math Coordinator. Upon the successful completion of my SAS and SDA certification, I became the Assistant Principal at Northport Middle School, in which position I presently reside. In this leadership role, I have honed my administrative and leadership skills. Fostering a positive atmosphere of trust, understanding, respect, and communication between and among all of the members of our learning community is essential and directly related to the present success of our educational programs. For this reason, I believe that the doctoral graduate program offered by St. John's University, combined with my passion and commitment to excellence in education, will enable me to continue to serve my community and lifelong learning professional goals.