

## RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

November 9, 2010

Feinstein School of Education and Human Development Graduate Studies and Assessment

North Scituate, RI 02857

Dear

Congratulations! The Department of Special Education is pleased to inform you that you have been admitted to the M.Ed. in Special Education with concentration in Exceptional Learning Needs Program. Your effective date of admission begins with the spring 2011 semester and at that time you will become a fully matriculated graduate student.

Enclosed is a copy of your Plan of Study. The Plan of Study is usually followed to completion of the advanced degree. Please consult with your advisor, Dr. Paul LaCava, at 456-9703 should you wish to make a change in your Plan of Study.

Please take the time to read the graduate sections in the current Rhode Island College catalog to become familiar with Graduate School Policies. An advanced degree program must be completed within six years from the time of the earliest course included in your official Plan of Study.

If you are a full time graduate student, you are required to provide the Health Services Department with immunization records. Please have your health care provider complete the enclosed forms and return to Student Health Services in Browne Hall. The Rhode Island College Health Services is available for all graduate students; if you have any questions, please call 456-8055.

Again, congratulations on your acceptance and matriculation as a graduate student at Rhode Island College. Best wishes for much success in your program of study.

Sincerely,

Alexander Sidorkin

Dean

Feinstein School of Education and Human Development

Afodoran

AS/rin Enclosures

Cc: P. LaCava

TTY/TDD via RI Relay: 1-800-745-5555

#### RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE FEINSTEIN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT GRADUATE STUDIES

#### PLAN OF STUDY

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#### RHODE ISLAND COLUEGE FEINSTEIN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT GRADUATE STUDIES

#### PLAN OF STUDY

Name:		Date: 11/8/10	
Address:		Plione:	
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SPED	518	Reading Instruction for Students with Disabilities	3
SPED	534	Involvement of parents and Families Who Have Children with Disabilities	3
SPED	558	Math/Science Instruction for Students with Disabilities	13
SPED	648	Interpreting and Developing Research in Special Education	3
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LEAD	504	Leading Learning I: Planning Instruction and Assessment	4
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#### Enrollment Services

## PROVIDENCE COLLEGE Academic Record PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02918-0001

Student No. 000721476

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North Scituate Rr 02857.

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Summer: 2 2005

Special Education

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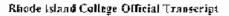
AMULLE A. CALONE
ASSOCIATE DEAN OF ENHOLLMENT SERVICES

### Records Office

600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue Providence, RI 02908-1991 (401)456-8212

ដងរាខ Student, ID

Send Co





Director of Records

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James Vaca Director of Records

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Records Office

600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue . Providence, RI 02908-1991

(401)456-8212

Name Student IC:

Send To:

#### Rhode Island College Official Transcript



Director of Records

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Records Office 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue Providence, RI 02908-1991. (401)456-8212

Rhode Island College Official Transcript

Student ID

Send To:



Director of Records

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# RHODE ISLAND

October 1, 2010

Feinstein School of Education and Human Development Graduate Studies and Assessment

North Scituate, Rt 02857

Dear

The Department of Special Education at Rhode Island College is pleased to inform you of a positive recommendation for your acceptance into the M.Ed. in Special Education with concentration in Exceptional Learning Needs Program.

In order to finalize your acceptance, you must file an approved Plan of Study in the Office of the Dean. Please contact your advisor, Dr. Susan Dell, at 456-8557 to schedule a time to develop and sign your Plan of Study. The Plan of Study must be completed no later than one year from the date of this recommendation of acceptance. Your admission into the M.Ed. in Special Education Program remains contingent upon receipt of an approved and signed Plan of Study. Please complete your Plan of Study promptly!

As a non-matriculated graduate student, you may complete no more than nine credits prior to filing a Plan of Study. Once you submit an approved and signed Plan of Study, you become a matriculated graduate student.

Again, congratulations on being recommended for admission to the M.Ed. Program in Special Education. I wish you much success in the pursuit of your degree.

Sincerely,

Alexander Sidorkin

Dean

Feinstein School of Education and Human Development

Afodoran

AS/m

Cc: S. Dell

Please note: Only matriculated students are eligible for financial aid. If you are interested in applying for financial aid including student loans, the Plan of Study must be completed as soon as possible to meet the Financial Aid Office deadlines. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for more specific deadlines at (401) 456-8684.

TTY/TDD via RI Relay: 1-800-745-5555





#### FEINSTEIN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

# Application for Graduate Admission

Hoturn this completed, signed application, \$50 application fee, and notification card in the enclosed envelope. The application fee must be in the form of a check or money order payable to Rhode Island College, Please type or print clearly.

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2.	Name:
3.	Gander (optional):  Male 10 Female
4.	Date of Birth: 12 - 19 - 79 Place of Birth: FOUIDENCE EL
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	☐ Check here if Mailing Address is different from Home Address (see no. 19).
6.	Citizenship (check one):  *** U.S. Citizen (Native). State of Legal Residence:
	Permanent U.S. Resident with a Permanent Residency Card. (Please forward a copy of both sides of your permanent residency card.)  State of Legal Residence: Number of Years in State:
	☐ International Student, Country:
	Other Immigration Status, (Ptease specify and attach supporting information.)
7.	Your First Language (optional):
8.	Proposed Entrance Date: Fall [3 Spring   Summer Year 20/0
9.	Have you previously applied for graduate admission to Rhode Island College?  Yes Year You ever attended Rhode Island College? Yes Year 97-02  No
10.	Ethnic Group (optional). The information below will not be used in determining admission or financial aid qualifications it properties in the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
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	To the best of my knowledge and belief the information given on this application form	is complete and accurate.	
	Applicant's Signature	Date 7/19/2	20/0

#### Statement of Confidentiality

The applicant is hereby advised that, in comptiance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the strict confidentiality of all information and materials received by the School of Social Work from any source in the consideration of this application shall be maintained, and these documents shall not be disclosed to enyone, including the candidate and his/her family, except by action of the School of Social Work in accordance with the provisions of the act and Rhode Island College policy. Once the admission process has been completed, the "educational records" only of enrolled students are forwarded to the Records Office and are available upon request to the student.

#### Statement of Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action

19. Program specific materials may be required. Please see listing in this application packet.

Pursuant to the philosophy of the Board of Governors for Higher Education, Fihode Island College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital, citizenship status or status as a special disabled veteran, recently separated veteran, Vietnam Era veteran, or any other veteran who served in active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized (except in those special circumstances permitted or mandated by law). This mondiscrimination policy encompasses the operation of the College's educational programs and activities, including admissions policies, exholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other College-personnel and contracting by the College for goods and services. The College is committed to taking affirmative action to employ and edvance in employment qualified women and members of minority groups identified in state and federal affirmative action laws and executive criters, persons with disabilities (including qualified special disabled veterans), and veterans of the Vietnam Era.



# International Charter School Professional Teaching Standards Assessment

	Name:						
	Departmen	nt: Special Education ·					
	Supervisor						
	Date:	Spring of 2009-2010 school year					
		Professional Teaching Standards					
Standard	Rating	Recommendation(s)					
One	Superior	Katie demonstrates superior performance in this standard area. She has shown great initiative in broadening her content knowledge base by pursuing additional certifications and endorsements including Severe/Profound educator and ESL endorsement. She incorporates what she has learned into creating interdisciplinary learning experiences that give all students access to achievement in the standards.					
Two	Superior	Katic has an exceptionally strong content knowledge base for teaching across the disciplines at the elementary level. She demonstrates a great capacity to understand and make comprehensible to her students content at the higher elementary range. She has great expertise teaching struggling students to read and had received additional training in, and uses quite effectively the Orton Gillingham reading method.					
Three	Superior	Katic has a good understanding of how children learn and develop and considers this not only in her instructional practices but also in the development of appropriately individualized IEP goals and objectives.					
Four	Superior	Katie demonstrates evidence of a respect for the diversity of learners throughout all instructional experiences she provides to students. She demonstrates this not only with learners who come from diverse cultural, ethnic, and socio-economic backgrounds, but also with students who have a diverse range of learning needs.					
Five	Superior	Katie expects that all of her students can and will develop high level thinking and problem solving skills and literacy skills as demonstrated across the content areas. She supports her students to make great gains in achievement as evidenced by their obtainment of IEP goals and by the closing of gaps that move them closer to, if not at grade level performance.					
Six	Snperior	Katie not only demonstrates the ability to create a supportive learning environment with her students, she also supports her colleagues to demonstrate the same abilities in their classrooms and school-wide. She takes a leadership role in this area by chairing the Positive Behavior Support and Intervention School-Wide Team.					
Seven	Above Average	Katie puts great effort in to developing and sustaining collaborative relationships with her co-workers and families. She meets weekly to plan and collaborate with the general education teachers she co-teaches with. She participates on school-wide teams and the school's special education parent group. She works closely with families to encourage them in taking an active role in their child's education. She maintains supportive relationships with many families to be directive that directive moved on to middle school. Katie would like to gain more knowledge about effective					



#### FEINSTEIN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

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JUL 26 2010

Rev 08/07

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#### FEINSTEIN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

#### CANDIDATE REFERENCE FORM and REQUEST FOR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

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Rev 08/07



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#### FEINSTEIN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

#### CANDIDATE REFERENCE FORM and REQUEST FOR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

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Teaching in the languages of our community: English, español, Portoguês

July 8, 2010

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this recommendation ho is applying to the Masters of Special Education program. I have worked with Katie at the International Charter School since November of 2006. As the Special Education Administrator at the International Charter school I have had the opportunity to work collaboratively with Katie on behalf of students with disabilities and learning challenges. During that time I have been her direct supervisor. In Katie's current position she works as a special education resource teacher providing specialized instruction to students in grades K-5. She works closely with the general education teachers and other team members in developing and implementing students' Individual Education Program goals. Katie is a dedicated and committed teacher who strives to provide a high quality education to her students. She maintains rigorous academic expectations for all students and is adept at differentiating instruction and supporting a classroom of diverse learners to meet the standards. She is an intuitive instructor anticipating students' needs and responding effortlessly. She seeks out guidance and responds to feedback in an effort to improve her skills and provide a quality education to her students. Katie's dedication leads her on a path towards continual learning and professional growth.

Over the last 4 years Katie and I have served together on several school teams including the Response to Intervention team, the Special Education referral, evaluation and IEP teams, the Behavior Support team and the Positive Behavior Support and Intervention (PBIS) school-wide team of which she is the Chair. Katie also places great value on the social and emotional growth and development of all students. Her interaction with students and her instructional practices, support and foster the social and emotional growth of her students. She has been instrumental in supporting her coworkers to incorporate the Responsive Classroom model with the principles and strategies of PBIS school-wide.

Katie is able to convey her ideas and communicate effectively not only in writing, but also verbally during group discussions and team meetings. She is an excellent facilitator and works collaboratively with her coworkers, often taking on extra responsibilities. Katie would be is an excellent addition to the program. Not only is she a master teacher she also has great leadership and mentoring skills and would be a great support to her peers. I have no hesitation in highly recommending her for the Masters of Special Education program. I know she will be a credit to your program and the field of education.

Mary Pendergast, M. Ed.

Special Education A

www.lnte

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nationalCharterSchool op



Teaching in the languages of our community: English, español, Portuguès

July 9, 2010

Peinstein School of Education and Human Development Rhode Island College 600 Mt. Pleasant St. Providence, RI 02908

'andidate for Masters Program

To Whom It May Concern:

I write this letter of recommendation as the Director of the International Charter School (ICS), an elementary, public school of choice located in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. In this capacity, I have worked with or supervised the above-referenced candidate since 2004. I enthusiastically recommend Ms. Nerstheimer for the Masters program—she has the capacity for graduate study and is a skilled and dedicated educator who seeks to expand her knowledge base and skills.

Ms. Nerstheimer has demonstrated the capacity for graduate study. She has taken masters level courses in special education and for her English as a Second Language (ESL) endorsement and has participated in Onon Gillingham training. For a couple of years now she has had the goal of getting her Master's in special education administration and is now able to take this commitment on. I am confident that she will not only be successful, but also make a positive contribution to your program.

In the six years she has been a special education teacher at the International Charter School, Ms. Nerstheimer has demonstrated talent as a teacher and team leader. She has not only successfully worked with students, but she has developed systems for improved delivery of special education services and taken on many administrator tasks, such as setting up accommodations for NECAP, arranging IEP meeting, etc. She has also led our Positive Behavior and Support (PBIS) team and participated on several other committees. She is poised to take advantage of her teaching experience and to take on more responsibilities as an administrator.

Ms. Nerstheimer is now eager to take the next step to advance herself and improve her practice by entering the Masters' program. Ms. Nerstheimer's prior experiences, knowledge, academic capacity and enthusiasm for improving herself make her an ideal candidate.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about Ms. Nerstheimer's candidacy.

Sincerely,

Jule Nora, Ph.D.

Director

1121 Diamond Hill Road Woonsocket, RI 02895

7/16/10

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I recc to the Masters program at Rhode Island College. Katie is one or mose dedicated teachers, who goes the extra mile to create personal connections with her students. She is always willing to learn new strategies, and to share the strategies she knows with her colleagues.

I have had the pleasure of working with Katie in many different capacities. Katie and I are members of the student support staff at International Charter School (ICS) during the school year. We work closely together to provide students with academic interventions. We meet with grade level teams on a weekly basis to plan for student support. I am also on the Positive Behavior Intervention and Support team with Katie, who is the leader of this very active initiative. Lastly, I work as Katie's supervisor during the summer school program here at ICS. Katie has been a valuable resource to the program for multiple years. Katie is a talented special educator, an excellent writer, and a skilled communicator.

When Katie identifies a professional goal for herself, she is passionate and resourceful. She is also self-motivated. She continually strives to learn how best to serve children. I can easily predict that she will be an asset to your program.

I am honored to recommend Katie Nerstheimer, as there must be many people who would be willing to speak for her. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Mignelle Johnson

Title 1 Reading Teacher International Charter School

DECEIVED 101. 1.5 2010

N. Scituate, RJ 02857.

# State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Bepartment of Education School Certificate

Having satisfactority met the certification requirements of the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education has been granted a certificate and is authorized to serife in the public schools of Rhode Island as a

PROFESSIONAL TEACHER OF ELEMENTARY GRADES (01-08) ISSUED 23-SEP-2005 AND EXPIRING 31-AUG-2010 ENDORSEMENT: CONTENT ESU TEACHER ISSUED 29-APR-2010 AND EXPIRING 31-AUG-2010 PROFESSIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATOR - MILD MODERATE, ELEMMID LEVEL ISSUED 23-SEP-2005 AND EXPIRING 31-AUG-2010 PROFESSIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATOR - SEVERE/PROFOUND DISABILITIES ISSUED 07-JUN-2007 AND EXPIRING 31-AUG-2010

13978 CERTIFICATE NUMBER

Given Under the Authority of the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education

Commissioner

RI COLL-DEANS DFC FEINSTEIN SCH OF ED SOO MT PLEASANT AVE PROVIDENCE, RI 029DB



#### OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

Pearson 19500 Bulverde Road San Antonio, Texas 78259 1-800-622-3231

Examinee Name: Examinee Addres

Examinee Phone: Social Security #: Date of Birth: Intended Major:



SPECIAL EDUCATION

TEST DATE	SCALED SCORE	Total Group PR	Intended Major PR
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**Scaled Scores** are based on the number of items correct and range from 200–600. Scores obtained prior to October 2004 are reported as raw scores.

Percentile Ranks (PR) indicate the percentage of examinees from the current norm group who received a scaled score lower than a given score.

 All PRs are based on the current 2007 norms, which are determined from the performance of all first-time MAT examinees from January 2004 through December 2007.

Note: "NA" suggests that the indicated scores are not applicable for that test date.

For suggestions regarding score interpretations and for information about the appropriate use of these test scoplease refer to the MAT Technical Manual.

**PrychCorp** 

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As a Graduate student in the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development, I believe I can contribute a unique understanding of learning based on my experience working with diverse populations. I believe this experience, and my commitment to life long learning will ensure that I gain high levels of academic achievement at RIC. As a graduate of RIC with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, I have an appreciation for the rigorous expectations that RIC has for all students. I pair that knowledge with the firm understanding that teaching affords both honorable me an and challenging opportunity for service in Rhode Island.

Since 2004, I have worked at the International Charter School (ICS) in Pawtucket, RI as a special education resource teacher. While working there 6 years I have consistently demonstrated my commitment to grow professionally not only by participating on the school's student centered support teams and in professional development activities, but also by continuing to complete coursework towards an additional certification as a severe/profound special educator and ESL endorsement. The coursework, practicum and student teaching experiences in the severe/profound program were enlightening and contributed to my belief in the importance of inclusion education opportunities for all students. This opportunity allowed me to increase my working certification areas and also expanded my thinking about how all students can access a good

JUL 26 2010

curriculum with creative, reflective planning.

can continue to grow professionally and realize my goal of becoming an increasingly more effective teacher in educating students with diverse learning needs. I look forward to working collaboratively with other educators. I know my understanding and willingness to improve my own practice is a testament to my promise as a student in this program. I look forward to the opportunity.