## **Darryn Dietrich – Teaching Statement**

I believe that to be an educator is to have an influence on the future, in a greater way, than in any other profession. I wish to be a part of the institution that fosters and encourages students to be kind and thoughtful as they further their education and pursue careers of their own. Throughout my placement I would like to gather experience in both formal direct instruction as well as inquiry-based learning so that I can see student responses and increase my flexibility as an educator. I am currently completing my major in Elementary Education with a minor in History at the middle school level.

Middle school students are trying out new things, figuring out who they are, and that is a stressful time. I want to be someone who can help students focus on the future while developing relationships with their fellow students encouraging them to live life to the fullest. I believe that all students are capable of learning the required material of a course and excelling academically. Learning becomes much more difficult when students carry heavy emotional burdens, I hope to help ease their loads.

In the case of online learning, I have considerable experience with Zoom and face to face online calls so I can bring my experience to the table as well as my willingness to learn more about new platforms. In my previous practicum placements, I have enjoyed the experience of interacting with parents, fellow teachers, and certainly the students. It is this social and team environment that I love about education; everyone working towards the goal of providing the students with an upbeat environment where they feel safe to learn and ask questions without fear of judgment or ridicule.

I wish to play a part in making school a place that students look forward to joining in. With the uncertain nature of the current world, education is on the verge of drastic change and to be an educator who is empathetic, and caring is my top priority. I aspire to refine my teaching skills and expand my repertoire of styles and platforms. I hope to be a benefit to the schools and classrooms where I work. I aspire to help every student move from those learning environments feeling more confident in themselves as academics and people .