

# Shana English

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Mr. Steve Barrons  
Director, Human Resources  
Badger School District  
1233 First Street  
Beaverdam, WI 53916

Dear Mr. Barrons:

The commitment of the Badger School District to developing students to be life-long learners identified on your district's website as a district hallmark immediately caught my attention. This commitment matches one of my personal goals in teaching. Another of my goals is to ignite within students an appreciation for reading across genres and to use critical thinking skills when analyzing authors' literary work. Enclosed are my résumé and application materials for the English teaching position with Badger School District.

During my student teaching at Madison South High School, I introduced classic literary allusions to students by challenging them to identify classical allusions in today's pop music. To assist students with this challenge, I developed a lyrics analysis chart that students used as they listened to and evaluated music by Billboard Top 40 artists, including Taylor Swift, Ed Sheeran, Bruno Mars, and Justin Timberlake. Through this exercise, students learned how modern artists used classical allusions to add meaning to their work and to engage their audience; I witnessed how vital it is to incorporate culturally relevant aspects to lessons, in order to fully engage students.

In one of the other courses, students explored science fiction writing of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. We used paired reading and literacy circles to delve into the writing of Mary Shelley and her classic novel, *Frankenstein*. Students explored how Shelley used personification, allusions, and tropes to tell a very human story that transcends generations to be pertinent in modern society. In conclusion of this unit, student groups analyzed themes found within science fiction pieces to create a final project.

Thank you for reviewing my application and considering me as a candidate for the English teaching position. If selected, I will bring enthusiasm, innovation and dedication for igniting a passion for learning and reading as a classroom teacher. I welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss my skills and my interest in teaching for the Badger School District. In the next two weeks, I will call you to confirm receipt of my application materials and to answer any questions that you have about my qualifications.

Sincerely,

*Shana English*

Shana English

Enclosures