

110 Red Oak Ct.
Erie, CO 80516

January 20, 2013

Office of Gifted Education
1560 Broadway, Suite 1175
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Morgridge College of Education Admissions Head:

I am applying to participate in the Doctoral Program for Gifted Education being offered by the University of Denver and the State of Colorado. I am currently a middle level social studies teacher in Boulder Valley School District and the BVSD Talented and Gifted Teacher Leader for Middle Schools. I have been teaching in Boulder Valley since the spring of the 1989-1990 school year.

Beginning with the identification of my son as a gifted and talented student in the early 1990s, I have had a great interest in learning more about educating this special population of students. In 2005, Boulder Valley entered into a partnership with the University of Denver to create a gifted cohort with the purpose of endorsing teachers from Boulder Valley and surrounding districts. Participating in this program has not only enhanced my teaching, but has supported my efforts for advocating for this important population at the classroom, school, community and regional levels.

My passion for gifted children has taken on many different facets. manifested itself in many different types of work with and for the gifted population has taken on many different facets. From planning and implementing lessons for my students, other students in the school, being a Talented and Gifted Education Advisor, designing planning and implementing social and emotional groups for students Boulder Valley School District has not recently had a large administrative organization for supporting TAG students and for providing professional development for its teachers. I have been involved in many efforts to grow this program during and since receiving my Endorsement from D.U. in 2008. As a four-year member of the superintendent's advisory council (TAC), I have made it my mission to keep matters associated with the gifted population on the table in district-level discussions. I have also been a board member for BVGT, the local CAGT affiliate, for the past two years. This has involved working together with others to bring local and national gifted experts to this region for parents, teachers and children's benefits.