

**Rachel N. Christiansen**  
**2254 Rose Family Drive Midlothian, VA 23112 (804)337-9777**

**A. Colleges and Universities Attended**

2005-2007	Virginia Commonwealth University	Richmond, VA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ M.T., Elementary Education (PREK- 6)</li> <li>▪ Graduated summa cum laude</li> <li>▪ Degree received on May 19, 2007</li> </ul>	
2002-2007	Virginia Commonwealth University	Richmond, VA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ B.S., Environmental Science</li> <li>▪ Minor in Mass Media</li> <li>▪ Degree received on May 19, 2007</li> </ul>	

**B. Teaching Employment History**

June 2017- Present	Robious Elementary School	Midlothian, VA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5th grade Math and Science (2017-2018)</li> <li>▪ Exploratory STEAM Teacher (current position)</li> <li>▪ Science Lead Teacher, Leadership Team Member, CCPS Equity Representative</li> </ul>	
June 2019- Present	Robious Elementary School	Midlothian, VA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Summer School Principal/Liason</li> </ul>	
July 2015- June 2017	Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School	Henrico, VA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5th grade Math and Science</li> </ul>	
Sept. 2014- Dec. 2018	Chesterfield County Adult Ed.	Midlothian, VA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Math 1 GED Teacher</li> <li>▪ National Retail Federation Customer Service and Sales Teacher</li> </ul>	
Sept. 2007- June 2015	Robious Middle School	Midlothian, VA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science</li> </ul>	
2004-June 2007	Various Schools	Chesterfield Co., VA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Short Term Sub Positions in grades K-8</li> <li>▪ Long Term Sub Position at Bailey Bridge Middle School</li> </ul>	

**C. Professional Certifications**

Post Graduate Professional License
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Elementary Education PreK-6</li> <li>▪ Middle Ed 6-8 Science</li> <li>▪ Middle Ed 6-8 English</li> </ul>

**D. Awards and Recognitions**

- Certified as VCU Clinical Faculty after successfully completing Foundations in Mentoring for Clinical Faculty at the Center for Teacher Leadership within the VCU School of Education in January 2022.
- Awarded Teacher of the Year for Robious Elementary School for 2022

- Received a Partners in the Arts grant in 2020 in the amount of \$5,000. Using the power of visual story-telling, our students will share their learning and offer a path to address food insecurity and food deserts through a photo story. Students' photo stories will be developed into plate art with a recipe that speaks to hunger in our area as they work to answer the driving question: how can we positively impact hunger in our community?
- Certified as a CodeVA Elementary Computer Science coach. This year long program completed in 2020 prepared me to support staff in implementing computer science standards.
- Received a Partners in the Arts grant in 2019 in the amount of \$5,000 to gain an understanding and appreciation for cultural diversity through jazz and theater and to study the social and historical impacts of African Americans native to Jackson Ward.
- Spring 2018 was the cooperating teacher to a University of Richmond student teacher.
- Received a \$700 Target grant and \$1,000 Toshiba grant in 2015 to create a school garden. The project involved having the students learn about plants, geometry, and being stewards of our Earth by planting a garden. This project gave students the opportunity to dive more deeply into the math and science curriculum and actually experience the material hands on rather than just reading about it and seeing it on paper. Students were involved in all aspects of the garden; from the planning stages, to creating the actual garden, to keeping the garden alive.
- Received the REB Award in 2014 for \$11,000 to experience the vast landscapes of Australia and expand knowledge about the world's biomes and the Great Barrier Reef. Before the trip, I participated in a National Geographic photography workshop.
- Received a 4,500 grant to tour Rome and Barcelona in July of 2012. The purpose was to compare and contrast the mosaics of ancient Rome to modern Barcelona. While looking at mosaics from the art perspective I investigated the math and science concepts involved in creating these beautiful works of art.
- Received a \$10,000 grant along with three other teachers through Partner's In the Arts to fund a mosaic product for our 6<sup>th</sup> grade expedition during the 2011-2012 school year.
- Awarded Teacher of the Year for Robious Middle School in 2012
- Nominated for Teacher of the Year for Robious Middle School in 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012 school years.
- Received a grant through The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. This grant allowed me and a former student to do research in a chemistry lab at the University of Richmond during the summer of 2010 and 2009.
- Recipient of the Trudie Meyers Science Teacher Award for the 2007-2008 school year.

### **E. Professional Development**

July 2020	VCU Early Engineers Workshop	Richmond, VA
May 2020	Trauma Informed Resilient Schools PD	Midlothian, VA
February 2019	Children's Engineering Conference	Roanoke, VA
April 2019	4H Embryology Professional Development	Midlothian, VA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Workshop allowed me to understand how to successfully hatch chicken eggs in the classroom and do a unit of embryonic development for grades K-5</li> </ul>	
August 2018	NTIP Mentor Training	Midlothian, VA
July 2018	CCPS School Innovation and Improvement Summit	Midlothian, VA

- May 2017 BER- Increase Learning and Motivation in Math, 3-6 Sandston, VA
- Differentiated instructional strategies to help struggling math students create a growth mind set towards math.
- February 2017 BER- Guided Math Sandston, VA
- Practical strategies for differentiating math instruction.
- January 2016 Supporting Struggling Students with Technology Richmond, VA
- Workshop provided opportunities to engage with SAMR model of technology integration. Technology tools were identified to use with struggling math students.
- March 2015 Natural Connections: Interdisciplinary Strategies Richmond, VA
- Workshop provided opportunities to make natural connections using interdisciplinary teaching approaches. Different workshops modeled ways to blend science, social studies, language arts, and math standards for authentic learning experiences.
- August 2014 Expedition Chesapeake Workshop Richmond, VA
- Attended training to have science content serve as the “hook” for an interdisciplinary unit of study that can be used to build skills in other areas to include writing, public speaking, mathematics and social sciences.
- August 2014 Camp Chromebook Midlothian, VA
- Attended to prepare to successfully teach, troubleshoot and distribute lessons in a technology rich classroom with Chromebooks
- November 2012 Presenter at Virginia Association of Science Teachers Roanoke, VA
- Presented a workshop on how to actively engage students in science content
- March 2011 Expeditionary Learning Schools National Conference Portland, OR
- Presented a Master Class titled “ Working Backwards to Move Forward”
- January 2011 Designing High Quality Expeditions Kansas City, MO
- Attended this three day institute with my PLC partner. We were able to spend time getting a better grasp on the integral parts of an expedition, along with spending time planning the expedition for the 2011-2012 school year.
- June 2010 Motivating Disinterested Students Charlottesville, VA
- Attended course and did a turn around training once school began to the science department.
- April 24-27 2010 American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Anaheim, CA
- At this conference a former student and I presented our research completed during the summer of 2009 and 2010 on The Effects of Various Amino Acid Substitutions at Isoleucine 140 on the Cofactor Binding Ability of glyoxysomal Malate Dehydrogenase
- April 22-23 2010 Robious Middle School Site Seminar Midlothian, VA
- Presented workshop titled “Using Experts and Fieldwork in Authentic Research”
- Feb. 2010 Expeditionary Learning Schools National Conference Kansas City, MO
- Attended master classes for three days taught my teachers and ELS staff
  - Participated in a pre-conference day institute
- October 2009 Connecting Reading and Writing Long Island, NY
- Attended this three day institute and in turn was able to come back and use reading and writing in a science classroom more effectively.

- August 2009                      NTIP Mentor Training                      Richmond, VA
- Attended the training in order to become a mentor to a beginning teacher for the 2009-2010 school year.
- June 2009                      Reading 1 Institute                      Kansas City, MO
- Attended a 5 day Institute in order to understand the workshop model and how to write and do a reader's workshop.
- March 2009    Expeditionary Learning Schools National Conference                      Baltimore, MD
- Presented a Master Class titled "A Product with Multiple Perspectives".
- February 2009                      Expeditionary Learning Site Seminar                      Philadelphia, PA
- Attended Russell Byers Charter School to observe classrooms and to see how the school curriculum mapped their content Kindergarten thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - After returning back to Robious I sat down with the other science teachers and we curriculum mapped the sixth thru eighth grade science content.
- September 2008                      VA Project Learning Tree                      Richmond, VA
- March 2008                      School Recycling Workshop                      Richmond, VA
- Attended the workshop in order to try to implement recycling at Robious Middle School.
- February 2008                      Project Wet                      Richmond, VA
- November 2007                      Assessment Institute                      Baltimore, MD
- Participated in a three day institute around assessments of and for learning.