

Elizabeth Anderson

Music Educator, Violinist, and Scottish Fiddler

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Walpole Human Resources

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Dear Hiring Manager,

I am very interested in the open position for a middle school strings teacher in the Walpole Public Schools. I am excited to develop the program to realize the music department's vision of a high level, community-building orchestral program. I believe that my Berklee education and strong background in teaching and performing have provided me with the pedagogical, musical, and interpersonal skills required to implement the expansion of the orchestra program in Walpole.

Throughout my practicum placement in Foxborough, MA, I have gained skill in balancing the teaching of individual instrument technique with ensemble skills such as dynamics, balance, and articulation in large and small group settings. I have also successfully prepared repertoire with my ensembles, which I conducted in performance at the Foxborough String Fest and at the MICCA Festival. In a middle school program, my primary goal is skill development, and I view concerts and festivals as valuable opportunities for students to learn performance skills, work towards meeting their musicianship goals, and share their work with the wider community.

My approach to classroom teaching draws from my eight years of experience as a private violin and viola teacher and from my work as an invited instructor at strings camps throughout New England. The variety of settings in which I teach challenges me to increase my repertoire of approaches, including having students sing, move, improvise, or play individually to reinforce a concept. My unique background in both classical violin and traditional Celtic music has informed my philosophy of strings teaching, which is rooted in technique and quality repertoire but also stresses the creative, collaborative, and cultural elements of music.

I hope you will find that my dedication and experience will be an asset in growing the Walpole strings program. I look forward to discussing how I can provide all students with a quality foundation on their instruments and promote music education in Walpole.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my application.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Anderson