Birch D. Criswell

Address: 4333 E. Hartford Ave. Phoenix AZ 85032 | Phone: +1 218 508 5828 | Email: <u>criswelledu@gmail.com</u>| website: crisewelledu.com

Experienced certified principal adept in:

- Ethical leadership and integrity.
- Strategic planning and policy implementation.
- Staff supervision and team support.
- Relationship building and networking.
- Analytical problem-solving and critical thinking.
- Discipline management and conflict resolution.

Positive-minded, administrator exhibiting strength through **humility**, **collaboration**, **listening**, **and communication skills**. Utilizing a strong emotional intelligence to **cultivate** trusting and **productive relationships** with all **stakeholders**. An **open-minded change agent** with firm beliefs in a culture where every child can and will both thrive and succeed in our programs. Focusing on academic achievement - leading to mastery for all students. Acts with a **growth mindset and an entrepreneurial drive** while owning all decisions and constantly improving. Very strong background in ESL administration and program implementation.

Relevant Work Experience

Traveling Break- Touring USA and Mexico, 07/22-Present

Discovery School - Early Childhood/Elementary Principal, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 07/2020 – 07/2022

Led an Embassy-based international school in Tegucigalpa, continuously coaching, mentoring, and providing guidance for teachers in instruction, curriculum development, and assessment while ensuring that student performance objectives and standards were met. Directing the development and implementation of educational goals of students and academic program objectives, policies, procedures, and work standards utilizing instructional and organizational leadership.

- Tracked and monitored standardized assessment NWEA MAP (Measure of Academic Growth) data to monitor and evaluate curriculum for nursery 5th-grade students leading to the implementation of a new math curriculum, S.A.V.V.A.S. in K-5, resulting in an **18% increase in MAP testing scores**.
- Advocated for equity, inclusion (DEI), and tending to students' Social/Emotional Needs (SEN) by encouraging and coaching staff through Lion's Quest, PD, and practice.
- Developed and actively encouraged support programs that guided teachers, students, and parents to successfully transition from in-person to virtual, to hybrid, and onwards while continuing to offer excellent education during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Hired, managed, supervised, and evaluated staff using the Charlotte Danielson framework.
- Planned and managed scheduling and staffing, and oversaw the implementation of various events such as awards presentations, dances, talent shows, extracurricular activities, and educational program events.
- Developed and **managed grade-level budgets**, professional development, and purchasing for each grade.
- Organized activities to bring parents and other community members into the school.

Tarsus American College- Vice Principal/HOD & Prep Dean, Tarsus, Turkey, 08/2018-07/2020

Vice Principal of a prestigious secondary school in Tarsus. Oversaw all areas of budgeting, curriculum, discipline, and strategic planning. Evaluated and resolved discipline and attendance issues, provided crisis intervention, conducted investigations to determine and implement appropriate actions based on guidelines while maintaining communication with parents/guardians.

- Chairperson of the school-wide Professional Development Committee; Extracurricular Clubs & CAS Activities; and the Child Protection Committee.
- Revised student discipline program which resulted in a 50% decrease in formal disciplinary action.

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- Supervised implementation of TeachPoint, Achieve 3000, Pearson (Versant), Quill, Atlas Rubicon, SmartClass, and other tech-ed applications.
- Performed, documented, evaluated, and communicated all classroom evaluations to assess teacher strategies and effectiveness.
- Utilizing TeachPoint's online tools and the Charlotte Danielson Framework evaluation rubrics, created systematic staff development and an action plan for increasing teacher performance.

Singapore International School - Elementary Principal/Vice-Principal Hanoi, Vietnam 07/2017 - 08/2018

Vice Principal/Principal at a key international school in Hanoi managing teachers, evaluations, student behavior/discipline issues, and maintaining relations with key stakeholders including United Nations representatives and parents.

- Developed and implemented a new ESL program which shifted from a basic ESL program to a rigorous, direct instruction, standards-based educational program resulting in students leveling up 50% faster.
- Oversaw all professional development including WIDA, Thinking Maps, Google Classroom, and Ethics in Communication.
- Coordinated and performed teacher observations and conferences.

College of Southern Idaho, Adjunct Professor & Full-time Student at BSU, Twin Falls, Idaho 12/15-06/17

- Taught English Composition 101 & 102.
- Attended Boise State University in person for an Education Specialist Degree in Executive Education Leadership during this time.

Jerome High School, English HoD & Chairperson of School Leadership Committee, Jerome, Idaho 08/2014 - 06/2016

- Developed and implemented the "Student Voice" program to engage students in school leadership. Served on the Administration team representing the school Leadership Committee.
- Created The Legacy Club, which decreased bullying and discipline issues by 60%.
- Taught Dual Credit English Composition 101 & 102, Grade 11 & 12 AP and College Prep ELA classes, Creative Writing I and II, American Literature.
- Began the High School Newspaper, "The Roaring Times".

South Korea & Oman – Associate Professor 03/2011 - 06/2014

- Taught content courses including Intermediate and Advanced English, Debate, Public Speaking, Critical Thinking, and Writing I & II.
- Created a Toastmasters speaking club at the University with a membership of over 40 students and faculty.

Cheongwon Elementary School, First Grade Teacher, Nowon, South Korea, 03/2010-03/2011

• Taught primary students in an English immersion program all subjects and was awarded, "Teacher of the Semester" & "Teacher of the Year", 2010/2011.

PGA Golf Professional, Director of Golf & Country Club Management, USA 1994 – 2009

- 20 plus years of real-world business and management experience.
- Managed and oversaw operations of 3 resorts and private clubs with over \$3m (USD) annual budgets. Please see www.criswelledu.com/management/ for details.

Education

Education Specialist (Ed.S.): Administration & Executive Leadership. Boise State University, Boise, Idaho USA Master of Arts Degree: English. Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona USA

Graduate Certificate: TEFL/TESOL. Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona USA

Bachelor of Arts: English. Boise State University, Boise Idaho USA

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Technology

- Managed LMSs to include: Canvas, Blackboard, PowerSchool, Rediker, Schoology, ALMA, and Google Classroom
- Highly trained in Google Workspace (suite), Microsoft Suite, Zoom, and Teams

Certifications

- Superintendent/Principal Licensure State of Idaho
- Highly Qualified Teacher State of Idaho English Language Arts
- Level II Child Protection ICMEC, which is an International Task Force certification on child protection.
- Charlotte Danielson Framework Teacher Evaluation Framework
- Certified WIDA tester
- Thinking Maps

Other Certifications & Interests

- Golf (Lifetime PGA Class A Golf Member)
- Outdoorsmen/Hiking
- Exercise & Fitness (Mat Pilates Instructor)
- Yoga (500-hour Yoga Alliance certified yoga teacher)