Matthew Pfenig

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St. Norbert College, Suite #1050	After 5-13-07
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April 11, 2007

James Reese
Director of Human Resources
Independent School District 112
11 Peavey Road
Chaska, MN 55318

Dear Mr. Reese:

I am writing to apply for the open Social Studies Teaching Positions at Chaska High School. I was made aware of the current openings, those being the full time position and the long-term substitute position, via the district's website. In May 2007, I will graduate from St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Broad Field Social Studies, a minor in History, and a teaching certification in grades six through twelve. Upon hearing of the teaching positions open at Chaska High School I became very intrigued due to it being the school district in which I attended through the ninth grade. I feel that through my four years at St. Norbert College I have gained great knowledge and respect for the teaching profession both as a student in class as well as assuming the role of the teacher. It is with that said that I would like to apply for the position and share with you how I can be an excellent teacher in Independent School District 112.

During the fall of 2006 I successfully completed two student teaching placements, one at Bay Port High School in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and the other at Swanson School in Swanson, New Zealand. Each of these placements brought about an incredible amount of growth in my ability to be a successful teacher. While I had been in high school and middle school classrooms throughout my teacher education classes at St. Norbert College, the ability to be involved with students for seven to eight weeks and provide instruction on units allowed for a strong learning opportunity. My resume, which has been uploaded to the online application, states many of the units I taught within my placement at Bay Port High School. Although I was told that I would be teaching certain units to the students, my cooperating teacher allowed me great freedom in developing and implementing my self-created lessons and assignments in the classroom. Through the experience of creating, teaching and assessing lessons, assignments, quizzes and tests at my high school placement I gained tremendous knowledge in teaching strategies and lesson plan development for high school students. My overseas student teaching experience in New Zealand enabled me to gain a great admiration and respect for different school systems, teaching strategies, and most of all a different culture all of which have broadened my ability to be a successful teacher.

Thank you for considering my qualifications for the social studies teaching positions at Chaska High School. I will contact the Department of Human Resources the week of April 16th to further discuss my qualifications for the teaching positions. In the meantime, if you would like to contact me, please feel welcome to reach me via cell phone at (952) 360-5492 or email at matthew.pfenig@snc.edu.

Sincerely,

Matthew Pfenig