

Kelly Story

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Education

1991 Saint Michael's College, BA Major: Political Science, Minor: Russian studies.

2011 Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential, Council for Professional Recognition.

Experience and qualifications

Story Educational Consulting: 2012-present:

2019: *Established consulting business* open to the general public and geared towards families with educational questions related to their children's needs.

2016: *Fundraising consulting* for Rock Point School. Worked with Head of School to create fundraising plan, identify donors, and create/implement donor strategy.

2012-present: *Pro bono consulting for families* with educational questions related to psycho-educational testing, special needs, giftedness, and local public and private schools.

Schoolhouse Learning Center, 2012 – present

2012- present: *Member of management/leadership team* for Schoolhouse Learning Center. Schoolhouse includes a private elementary and middle school, preschool, afterschool, and summer camps.

Assisted Schoolhouse principal in all aspects of running a private school including: program development, day to day operations, students discipline and support, staff supervision and support, budgeting and financial oversight, developing policies and procedures, legal issues, internal and external community relations, admissions and enrollment, legislative advocacy.

Collaborated in creating dynamic new environmental programs to enrich elementary programs. Assisted in creating and supporting new alternative middle school at Schoolhouse.

Oversee transition of new preK directors of nature based preK at Schoolhouse. Continue in legislative-community advocacy related to PreK issues in the legislature.

Collaborated(ing) to establish anti-bias curriculum, policies, practices, and trainings from preK through eight grade.

2012- present: *Special needs admissions support:* Consult and coordinate on issues related to admissions and enrollment of Schoolhouse students with special needs including analyzing student files, coordinating support plans for students with learning disabilities, working with South Burlington School District and Schoolhouse teachers, support staff, and administrators to identify, evaluate, and create service plans for Schoolhouse students with known or potential learning disabilities or special needs.

2012-2018 Director/founder of nature based preK at Schoolhouse: Sold to, established, and directed nature based preschool program at Schoolhouse (currently has wait list of 45 families). Collaborated in creating dynamic new environmental programs to enrich elementary programs. Assisted in creating and supporting new alternative middle school at Schoolhouse.

Oversaw interns from the Human Development and Family Studies Program at the University of Vermont placed in the

Schoolhouse preschool classroom.

Child Care Resources, 2012 – present: Presenter: Created and presented classes for child care/pre-school community related to nature based, gardening curriculum and classroom/outdoor design.

Story Time Family Child Care, 2007 – 2012: Owner/teacher.

Established successful nature based licensed home child care/preschool program with focus on open-ended play, nature, gardening, wild life, and the environment. Created curriculum and weekly plans, supervised and trained one full-time and three part-time staff, maintained regular communication with parents, marketed program, successfully sold program to Schoolhouse Learning Center.

State of Vermont Family Services Division: Emergency Social Worker, 2010-2013: Served as a social worker to general public after hours and on weekends for the State of Vermont's Emergency Services Program. Took reports regarding abuse and neglect of children. Problem solved with supervisor, colleagues, general public, police, and state's attorney to ensure safety of young children in emergency situations. Acted as a resource to families with foster children at nights and on weekends, and functioned as decision maker for general matters related to foster children – ie; permission to treat, emergency placement.

1992 – 2007: Rock Point School

2004 – 2007: Development Director: Implemented successful development plan for annual fund and small capital projects. Raised \$125,000 of matching funds in one year to establish \$250,000 scholarship fund. Developed consistent relationships with donors and alumni. Oversaw three successful mini capital campaigns to improve the school facilities: new computer lab: \$40,000; renovated recreation room and stained glass studio: \$35,000; renovated student lounge: \$35,000.

1996 – 2004: Admissions Director: Analyzed student applicants school records and reports, psycho-educational testing, specialist reports and recommendations (counselors, tutors, mentors), team feedback, parent and student oral history and intuition, and interview notes and impressions to determine right fit for potential admissions candidates. Created student plans for success based on analysis of complete academic and social-emotional history. Collaborated with school team, students, and families to update and revise plans as needed throughout students' enrollment at school.

Developed and oversaw admissions contracts which included sobriety and counseling plans, as well as educational and tutorial support when needed.

Created successful admissions program which stabilized schools revenue source within two years. Expanded full paying enrollment base through development of consultant referrals. Significantly expanded schools budget through the increase of full pay admissions.

Worked on the administrative team to create new positions to strengthen school, develop school policies and philosophies, and create plan for renovating school facilities including dormitories and kitchen/dining room. Developed marketing packet for admissions.

1992 – 1995: Residential Educator: Regularly supervised and counseled adolescents. Created weekend recreation plans. Collaborated with a team of eight staff to successfully implement dormitory program for student community and individual students.

1995 – 1996: Renaissance school: After School Director pre-K - third grade.

1992 – 1996: Heartworks pre-school, Summer camp counselor/ co-director – Adventures Unlimited K-3rd grade.

Presentations

2012 & 2013: Bean T-pees, Sunflower houses, vegetable gardens and more! Through regional training center

Child Care Resources, presented two, two hours workshops for a group of twenty five Pre-school teachers on children's gardening curriculum and implementation.

2014: Mother Nature in the pre-school classroom: Through regional training center Child Care Resources, presented two, two hours workshops for a group of twenty five Pre-school teachers on creating a nature centered classroom and curriculum.

Trainings/Conferences

Schoolhouse Learning Center: 2012-present: Proposed, sought, and attended various trainings related to anti-bias, anti-racist practices and curriculum. (list of trainings available upon request), attended 12 hours of training a year related to child development, curriculum, program management, community development, learning disabilities and special needs, and more.

State of Vermont/ Department for Children and Families: 2011-2013: Engaged in state trainings related to Child Development, child protection legislation, policy, assessment, reporting and practice, working with children and families, and more.

Child Care Resources (list of trainings available by request): 2007 – present. Engaged in trainings related to Child Development and theory, curriculum design, program management, approaches to curriculum, working with families, working with children, temperament, specialized training for special needs populations.

Rock Point School Trainings: 1996 – 2007: Annual summer trainings led by community experts on various topics including: understanding psycho-educational testing, implementing knowledge of psycho-educational testing into the classroom, understanding and de-escalating power struggles, how to talk so kids will listen and listen so kids will talk, substance abuse, sexual abuse, alternative methods of education and learning, Myers Briggs, and more.

Independent Education Consulting Association (IECA): 1996 – 2004: Bi-annually attended conferences which included three days of networking and training with national leaders in education and counseling. Topics included the latest thinking on educational issues including subjects such as: learning disabilities; working with educational consultants; therapeutic schools; working with children and families; gender specific learning; neuro-science and education; substance abuse, treatment, and it's relation to education; psycho-educational testing.

Small Boarding School Association (SBSA) 1996 – 2004: Member through Rock Point School. Attended yearly conferences with over fifty small boarding schools from around the United States. Engaged in and shared collaborative learning around topics such as admissions and enrollment, school leadership, curriculum development, marketing, and fiscal responsibility. Learned about other schools approaches to curriculum, program vision, administration, and fiscal responsibility and growth.

Independent School Association of Northern New England (ISANNE) 1996 - 2004: Member through Rock Point School. Attended yearly conferences with day and boarding schools from Northern New England. Attended yearly admissions specific conference. Engaged in and shared collaborative learning around topics such as admissions and enrollment, school leadership, curriculum development, marketing, fiscal responsibility. Learned about various schools approaches to curriculum, program vision, administration, and fiscal responsibility and growth.

Vermont Schools/ Fall Foliage Tours 1996 – 2004: Collaborated with Admissions Directors from participating Vermont Schools to establish, lead, plan, and implement yearly Fall Foliage Tour of Independent Boarding and Day Schools for Independent Educational Consultants in Vermont. Rock Point School was a founding member and key contributor for this tour.

Volunteer Experience

2018: Early Learning Partnership of Chittenden County. Volunteered to be on planning committee for quarterly ELP meetings required by ACT 166 private-public partnerships.

1995 – present: Prison meditation and outreach. Through the leadership and request of an inmate in St. Albans Northwest State correctional facility, helped to establish a weekly Buddhist meditation group which was active until the facility closed in December 2008. Continue to provide written and phone support for inmates who are still incarcerated and for men who are transitioning into the community.

1998 – present: Hunger Relief. Co-led and coordinated five Hunger Banquets at the Vermont Zen Center in Shelburne to raise awareness and funds for hunger issues abroad and in Vermont. Money raised went to support Oxfam and local food shelves.

2002 – 2004: Interfaith projects. Board of Shelburne, Charlotte, Hinesburg interfaith projects. Helped to open and establish a successful second hand shop (SCHIP's Treasures in Shelburne) to raise funds for local non-profits and individuals in need.

2009 – present: Shelburne Community School, Hands On Nature/general volunteer: Implemented monthly one hour nature programs for elementary school students at Shelburne Community School for 5 years. Annually support middle school musical - help coordinate building of sets for 3 years. Volunteer for field trips, classroom needs, etc. all years. Helped raise significant funds and community support for new school playground. **2018/19:** Volunteer member of diversity committee.

2014-present: Spectrum Youth and Family Services: Worked with two other Shelburne mothers to Organize and coordinate Shelburne Sleep Out for Spectrum Sleep Out. Over the four years we've led groups ranging from 10-45 and raised between \$3,000 and \$10,000 annually for Spectrum.

Memberships: National Association for the Education of Young Children; Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children, VCCICC, Early Childhood Alliance, Let's Grow Kids, IECA (independent education association).

Activities outside of work: Lay ordained member of the Vermont Zen Center from 1991-present (the Vermont Zen Center is a Buddhist temple with a focus on meditation and social outreach), spending time with family, hiking, running, playing.

