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Michelle Tumbleston

College of Charleston B.S. / M.Ed.- Sp. Ed/LD

After earning a B.S. from College of Charleston with a degree in Elementary Education, Michelle went on to earn her Masters of Education in Special Education specializing in Learning Disabilities from the University of Charleston. Michelle, then went on to further her degree by becoming a doctoral candidate at the University of South Carolina in Curriculum and Instruction. She is originally from Atlanta, Georgia and graduated from St. Pius X. After graduation from college, Michelle visited Africa and spent time in the Mount Kenya Academy School in Kenya, Africa. Returning to the States, Michelle worked at A.C. Corcoran Elementary in North Charleston teaching 1st and 2nd grades. She then took a teaching position at Trident Academy in Mount Pleasant, a school specializing in children who learn differently. Michelle taught grades 4-12th at Trident Academy over a 9 year span. The courses she specialized in were History, Technology, Yearbook, Literary Magazine, and LEAD. She has served on the faculty of the summer reading programs for elementary students and was the Director of Technology while at Trident Academy. She is trained as a Multi-Sensory Orton-Gillingham Tutor, and a Fast Forward Trained Technology Technician. Michelle is also trained in Responsive Classroom, Conflict Resolution, Darkness to Light, ADD and ADHD Lucy Calkins Writing, Everyday Math, Open Court Reading, Houghton Mifflin Math, Occupational Therapy and Sensory Integration, Art Development Explorations, First Aid and CPR.

While her children were young, Michelle became a Home School Tutor with The State of South Carolina Home School Teaching program, until she joined the faculty of Ashley Hall School in Charleston, SC in 2007 where she taught PreK and Kindergarten. She then developed and taught a Multi-Age classroom of PreK-K mixed gender in a single sex school. Michelle is trained in the Reggio Emilia Approach and has her minor in Early Childhood. Michelle has given numerous workshops and spoken in conferences to other educators.

Recipient of numerous awards for her teaching, including the Distinguished Teacher Award from Ashley Hall School in Charleston, SC. The Teacher of the Year Award for Trident Academy in Charleston, SC and The South Carolina Independent School Association First Runner up Teacher of the Year Award. Michelle has been invited to speak at the National LDA Conference in San Francisco, CA on Technology and Learning Differences as well as the College of Charleston, Technology and Curriculum Instruction Conference in Charleston, SC. She is also published with writings and documentation involving the Reggio Emilia Approach and Technology and

Learning Disabilities.

Michelle holds certifications in the State of South Carolina and Montana for Elementary Education K-8th , and Special Education K-12th.

She relocated to Missoula, in December 2010 for a change in lifestyle and to be closer to her brother and his family.

Michelle enjoys reading, yoga, hiking, biking, skiing, boating, canoeing, being outdoors, and traveling. She and her two children reside in Missoula with their miniature poodle, CoCo. Michelle, Emma and Sophie are new members at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church downtown Missoula.