PAGET H. MERRIMAN

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SUMMARY of QUALIFICATIONS

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR / EDUCATOR with a commitment to help children develop and demonstrate a positive attitude toward themselves and others. Proven success in strengthening the foundational academic and positive social skills that result in moving students forward in their scholastic and personal life. Collaborate with staff and external professionals to assess learning obstacles and ensure appropriate educational activities, class placement and / or psychological treatment. Partner with parents to elicit a home environment that enhances learning and prepares students for a productive role in society.

Learning Needs Assessment - Academic Learning Initiatives - Complex Behavioral Solutions

Behavior Modification - Critical Thinking - Parental Counseling - Special Needs Analysis

Group & Individual Counseling - Crisis Prevention & Intervention - Relationship Management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

KACHINA COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL - Paradise Valley & Scottsdale, AZ **2007 - Present**
Counselor / Learning Clinic Director for a private and charter school. 2007 - Present

School Counselor: Develop and implement appropriate individual or group counseling sessions to meet student needs, both in the general classroom as well as on the Individual Education Plan (IEP).
Learning Strategy Clinic Director: Provide individual assessment to identify a student's most efficient learning style (auditory, visual, and kinesthetic); body awareness, self-confidence and neurological processing issues. Suggest intervention techniques as needed; respond in a timely manner to parents and staff regarding school or personal issues. Work with ADHD, Dyslexia, Anxiety Disorder, Autism, Asperger's, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Depression, Tourette's and OCD.

- Recommended by the Arizona Department of Education as an institution with an exceptional resource program for children with special needs.
- Increased enrollment from 90 students to near capacity enrollment of 175 (185 is capacity).
- Improved general academics and attitude toward learning through utilization of Neuro-linguistic programming techniques including, but not limited to light and sound integration, mirror room and brain gym exercises.
- Participated as the member of a multi-disciplinary educational team in diagnosing learning and behavioral disabilities; recommend learning and behavior modification strategies to parents.
- Coordinate with administration, staff, law enforcement and CPS issues involving alcohol and alleged child abuse; refer parents to professional counselors and agencies as needed.
- Wrote IEP's for the charter school, thus creating opportunity where teachers, parents, school administrators and related personnel work together to develop appropriate goals and intervention strategies that improve social interaction and educational results.
- Achieved the following results in working with individual students:
  - Improved academics and social behavior in a 6th grader, which increased classroom attendance and performance from 10% to 80%.
  - Assisted a new 5th grade student with Tourette's syndrome on how to educate fellow students about the disability, resulting in respect, acceptance and new friendships.
  - Improved social skills of an 8th grader with Asperger's by initiating the mentoring of a 4th grade student.
  - Reduced a 6th grader's anxiety symptoms by incorporating the Neuro-linguistic light and sound integration program.
  - Encouraged the acceptance of others' differences by developing positive self esteem, social skills and building safety within themselves.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (Continued)

Principal 2008 - 2009
Directed day-to-day operations that included frequent meetings with teachers, students and parents; hiring and supervising school personnel, updating all personnel files, enforcing school policies and procedures. Reported directly to the Owner / Executive Director. Organized staff training to meet mandatory state and private school fingerprinting, CPR and CEU requirements.

- Advised management of cost savings initiatives that included reassignment of duties and tuition restructuring.
- Improved operations by implementing a consistent personnel filing and teacher reporting system.
- Met with parents as needed to discuss grades, behavior and interventions. Worked with staff and parents to organize special events and fundraisers.
- Built teacher morale by implementing teacher appreciation luncheons and giving time off for special occasions.
- Motivated students by recognizing high performance and outstanding contributions; implemented special theme days such as crazy hair day, backwards day and pajama days. Initiated a student-run snack bar with money collected donated to charity of the children's choice.
- Encouraged reading by organizing and setting up a new, functioning lending library.

CENTER FOR LIFE STYLE CHANGE - Phoenix, AZ **1999 - 2003**
ASAP (Adolescent Substance Abuse Program
Substance Abuse Counselor (Part Time)
Performed group counseling in an academic and outpatient setting for adults and adolescents with drug and alcohol problems; provided all support services to clients in ASAP program, and trained faculty staff Phoenix Union High School District.

Additional Experience 1995 - 2007

ROSSMAR REALTY LLC - Scottsdale, AZ
Designated Broker

ROSSMAR & GRAHAM - Scottsdale, AZ
Portfolio Manager

SALCO PROPERTIES LTD. - Scottsdale, AZ
Business Owner / Co-Founder

EDUCATION

Masters Degree, Counseling, University of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ GPA 3.8
Bachelor of Arts Degree, Psychology, Finch College, New York, NY

CERTIFICATIONS & LICENSES

Interactive Metronome Therapy Certification
National Board Certified Counselor - National Board for Certified Counselors
Arizona Department of Education, Substitute Teaching Certificate
Arizona Real Estate Broker's License, Arizona School of Real Estate, Scottsdale, AZ
California Real Estate Broker's License, Clare Institute, San Diego, CA

AFFILIATIONS

National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC)
Scottsdale Association of Realtors®