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I observed Derek teach many classes during his PSIII practicum because I made a series of videos on his teaching to present as exemplars in my curriculum classes at the university. I have never had a student with Derek's maturity and teaching abilities. Derek is highly skilled in technology integration for example. He used the smart board with ease to present images to introduce every lesson and to present student work. When I showed the video of him teaching Global Position Satellites, my education students were amazed that he was a PSIII intern. There were so many subtleties in his teaching that gave us concrete examples of skills in classroom management, cooperative learning, actively engaging students in hands-on projects, and in utilizing expert volunteers from the community.

I cannot say enough about Derek's teaching abilities, his content knowledge in every subject area, and his initiative to take risks while putting in the effort to make sure his projects are a success. For example, he planned all summer before his PSIII practicum to present a PowerPoint presentation to the staff on how he would integrate art across the curriculum with a thematic approach. His overall theme of the Alberta centennial was broken down into sub themes, which were developed across grades and subjects for the Christmas concert. Derek is a leader who inspires confidence and inspiration to those who work with him, yet he is always humble in giving credit to other people. Derek was instrumental in laying the thematic foundation for the Christmas concert and in its preparation. His projects in the classroom provided content in the drama productions and his hands-on assistance in creating sets and video projections added a professional quality to the concert. He went further to plan a showcase evening along with the drama and music interns to present the process involved in each of the student projects. The goal was to show how the arts motivate learning across the curriculum. Derek's work at St. Pat's has helped to raise its profile as an arts school. His showcase to parents has helped to communicate and demonstrate through video and examples of student work, the value of learning through the visual arts.

I was so impressed with Derek's presentation to the other teachers at St Pat's that I asked him to present at the Southern Alberta Art Gallery. Our presentation was entitled, "What does it mean to teach art in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." There were many teachers who attended who expressed their appreciation for his clear and innovative ideas. Derek has degrees in management and science, and worked as an architect for thirteen years before deciding to become a teacher. This experience informs his ideas and ability to synthesize knowledge to teach with meaning and sophistication.