

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Allison is a bilingual science, math, literacy, and outdoor educator and program director committed to joyful, rigorous, relevant, and inquiry-based learning. She is motivated by the collaborative learning community, expanding access to art, literacy and the sciences, and a love of the “aha” moment.

## EXPERIENCE

### Academic Coach, Bay Area, CA

2022 - current

- Boost academic confidence and performance for students in science, math, writing, history, and Spanish subjects. Celebrate successes and encourage continued growth.
- Collaborate with family and parents to report on progress, successes, and areas of growth.
- Coach students through mental health struggles related to test-taking anxiety, social pressures, college applications, low self-esteem, and transitions between schools and grades.
- Train students in effective executive functioning skills like time-management, goal-setting, project management, college application pacing, and positive self-regard.

### Growing Together Projects, Bay Area, CA

#### *Program Director, Outdoor Equity Programs*

2022 - current

- Coordinate Druids Internship program; mentor and lead 18 paid high-school interns in conservation, land stewardship, native plants, nursery maintenance, and environmental design
- Collaborate with community partners and organizations to deliver content-specific student workshops and facilitate youth input in community projects like new park installations
- Plan and lead nature field trips for eleven 9th grade science classes (300 students total) and two overnight weekend camping trips for up to 20 youth
- Organize with School Site Council to develop new Environmental Justice Small Learning Community to feature CTE courses, environmental and green engineering, and gardening programming
- Coordinate with MOT, site and district administrators to plan lawn conversion events that engage students and community in creating native plant gardens at district schools

### San Lorenzo Unified, San Lorenzo High School, San Lorenzo, CA

#### *Teacher, AP Biology (12th), Living Earth (9th), Chemistry in the Earth Systems (10th)*

2017 - 2022

- Create, modify and execute Standards-aligned (NGSS) curriculum and lessons with modifications for specific needs and interests of my class and differentiation for students with different abilities, and burgeoning bilingual students
- Build courageous classroom culture and learning experiences that value cooperation, respect, risk-taking, and academic rigor; implement Tier I & II restorative practices to build positive culture and repair harm
- Teach 2-3 sections of integrated push-in classes with newcomer students and students with 504 plans and IEPs. Participate in IEP meetings and regular communication with case managers and parents

# ALLISON T. O'BRIEN

- Advise the PRIDE club; advocated and changed systems to eliminate deadnaming of trans students on school technology platforms; Won \$1000 CTA Guy De Rosa LGBTQ Safety in Schools grant for 30 students and 3 teachers to attend the Oakland Pride festival in 2021

## *Chair, Science Department*

2019-2021

- Led science department in transition to and implementation of standards-aligned curriculum, analyzing student assessment data for trends in achievement by sub-group and content area
- Mentored first-year teachers in inquiry-based teaching, discussion and socratic methods, Standards-Based Grading, classroom management, curriculum design, relationship building, and communicating with families
- Designed and led professional development workshops for counselors, administration, and other staff in transitioning to and implementing Standards-Based Grading and standards-aligned lessons
- Maintained and planned science department budget, executed orders, organized and delivered curricular materials

## Exploratorium Teacher Induction Program, San Francisco, CA

### *Early Career Teacher*

2018 - 2020

- Participate in weekend workshops and a 3-week Summer Institute led by Exploratorium staff scientists and educators designed to build teaching repertoire using an NGSS inquiry-driven approach
- Experience, plan, and teach phenomena-based inquiry-driven lessons and units
- Collaborate in mentor support-group meetings and work with experienced teacher-coaches through classroom observation and feedback/planning meetings

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## EDUCATION

### Stanford University, Stanford Teacher Education Program (STEP)

May 2018

MA in Education

Single Subject Teaching Credential in Biological Sciences, Secondary Authorization in English  
English Learner Authorization

### University of California, Berkeley

May 2014

BA with High Honors in Integrative Biology and Creative Writing

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## SKILLS

Languages: English (native), Spanish (fluent)

Canvas Learning Management System

CPR/Wilderness First-Aid Certified

Google Classroom + Google Suite

Microsoft Suite

PC and Mac literate

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## INTERESTS

Woodworking and Construction

Gardening, Farming, Mycology

Abolition and Restorative Justice

Drawing and Painting (watercolor, acrylic)

Writing: Poetry and Fiction

Dance and Dance Composition