

In preparation for his vocation, Michael VanDereedt attended Towson University, earning a B.S. in 2004. Graduating Summa Cum Laude, he married his first love (History) by beginning his teaching career in Anne Arundel County, where he's lived his whole life and taught for fifteen years. Honored and entrusted with A.P. U.S. History in his second year, he continued serving in that capacity for five years; transferring to his current school (Arundel High), Mr. VanDereedt served as a content team leader. Teaching A.P. Psychology at present, he remains active as head usher for his parish and in the Knights of Columbus.

MICHAEL VANDEREEDT

Objective	Election as the Teacher Member for the Board of Education
Career Goals	Involvement in secondary education as preparation for a second career enhancing the instruction of history in higher education
Education	<u>Towson University</u> August 2000-May 2004 Total credits earned: 151 Graduating GPA: 3.94 Undergraduate Degree: BS in History Secondary Education Member of the Honors College through all four years <u>Goucher College</u> Summer 2005 Graduate credits from A.P. Summer Institute, certification in teaching Advanced Placement U.S. History
Certification	<u>Standard Professional Certificate</u> August 2004-July 2014 Secondary Education (Social Studies) <u>Advanced Professional Certificate</u> July 2014-Present Graduate credits earned for continuing education: Trinity University (2014), Dominican University (Summer 2018)
Professional Experience	<u>Social studies teacher</u> August 2004-Present <i>Location:</i> Arundel Senior High School, Gambrills, Maryland (previously at Meade Senior High School, Ft. Meade, MD) <i>Responsibilities:</i> planning and preparing lessons, insuring a safe and supportive classroom environment <i>Courses taught</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ A.P. U.S. History August 2005-June 2010❖ A.P. Psychology August 2019-Present❖ IB History of the Americas HL August 2008-June 2011❖ Honors U.S. History 2006-2007, 2013-2019❖ World History 2006-2008, 2015-Present❖ U.S. Government 2004-2005, 2007-2008, 2010-2011❖ International Studies August 2017-January 2018❖ Honors Social Issues January-June 2018
Leadership	<u>Professional Context</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Sponsor of the It's Academic Club 2004-Present❖ Content Team Leader (U.S. History) 2011-2012

❖ Sponsor of the Diplomacy Club 2013-Present

Personal Leadership and Community Involvement

❖ Grand Knight (Knights of Col.) 2009-2010, 2014-2015

As the head of St. Bernadette Council, I created the bylaws governing our council's business and also oversaw creation of the first official operating budget concerning thousands of dollars in charitable donations and proceeds given to us as Knights of Columbus.

❖ Head Usher for St. Bernadette Parish 2014-Present

Recognitions

Asked to teach A.P. U.S. History 2005 (second year)

Mentor for student interns 2007-2008, spring 2018

Teacher of the Month awarded by NHS (February 2008)

Personal Statement

While administrators, Central Office staff, and parents evaluate educators, the clearest insight to an educator's effectiveness comes from the "customer," namely the students enrolled in the class receiving instruction. Amid all the analysis of data, the number nine ranks most potent, poignant, and personally relevant. It signifies the number of students who have left my class with the intent to pursue the professional path of secondary social studies education themselves, participation in my class being a factor if not the exclusive and sole factor. No testimonial or tribute, no accolade or acknowledgment – no matter how qualitatively measured or fine-tuned – from any source can compete with the testament to my time as a teacher this symbolizes and epitomizes. It signifies the impact I have (and hopefully continue to have) upon all of my students. They feel not merely valued and appreciated, not only inspired to excel and exceed expectations but aspiring to join as a colleague and coworker, an equal helping to shape students into citizens, educated and engaged in the maintenance of our democracy and guardianship of our freedom. If our children represent our future, it behooves those entrusted to education and elective office to safeguard the students who guarantee the continuance of our country and its traditions. Since both paths align within the office I now seek, I can, must, and will work tirelessly to insure that goal's fulfillment, remaining humbled by those I serve both inside and outside the classroom and across the state of Maryland.

8 Oct 2019

From: David A. Bethel

To: Maryland State Board of Education

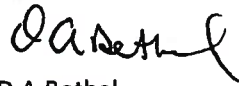
Subj: Letter of recommendation on Mr. Michael A. VanDereedt for consideration as the "Teacher Representative" to the Maryland State Board of Education

1. I recently received a kind email from Mr. Michael VanDereedt, of Arundel High School, requesting I submit a letter of recommendation for his nomination as the Teacher Representative to the Maryland State Board of Education. I am honored to do so.
2. **Michael VanDereedt has my most enthusiastic recommendation for selection in this newly created position on the Maryland State Board of Education. He is an outstanding instructor, innovator and role model for those he interacts with.**
3. This letter is based on my frequent interaction with Mr. VanDereedt during my daughter's junior year at Arundel High School in Gambrills, Maryland. As with many parents, my observations on Mr. VanDereedt were initially formed based on the impressions my daughter provided me as she had him for History. Her comments were extremely positive across the board.
4. First and foremost, I picked up on the specific actions taken by Mr. VanDereedt in the classroom, that provided the students various opportunities to enhance their understanding of our nation's history. Throughout the semester, he made a specific effort to address topics that may have been offshoots of the directed syllabus while covering those historical topics that had fallen by the wayside. As an example, Mr. VanDereedt and I discussed the meeting at Camp David following the Bay of Pigs Invasion between the new president, John F. Kennedy with former President Eisenhower. The picture of the meeting, taken by my childhood neighbor, Mr. Paul Vathis of Harrisburg PA, won the Pulitzer Prize for photography in 1962. He introduced the additional material in the ensuing class periods. I must believe that Mr. VanDereedt recognized long before our initial meeting that there existed a delta between the textbook learning and practical knowledge that each student should be accumulating as a citizen of our great country, and he worked to close that gap. In many ways he opened the aperture of his students through his emphasis of allowing his course to have a "Civics" spin as part of the curriculum.
5. Finally, and in consultation with Mr. VanDereedt's peers and once again with my daughter, now a sophomore at Towson University, I asked the very simple question...." **Is Mr. VanDereedt "for" the students and does he measure himself, his worth as a teacher, on the success of his students in the classroom and in life?"** From all corners I received a resounding "Yes"!!!
6. As a point of order, I graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1979 after being a summer school warrior every summer. I successfully served as a Marine for 28 years. Commanded at

every rank. One of my duty assignments was as a Senior Instructor in the Economics Department at the Academy teaching the same course, I received a "D" in as a Mid. Simply put, my job was to get these great kids/Midshipmen through my class while ensuring that I provided them every opportunity to earn a passing grade and excel. And they did...we did. I saw many of those same characteristics in being FOR the students and providing them an arena where they could excel in every facet, in Michael VanDereedt. He immediately earned my trust, confidence and respect as an educator and as a leader in Arundel High School.

7. In closing, I trust this teacher to always do the right thing in his decision-making calculus. Mr. Michael VanDereedt is a leader, a motivator and a quiet professional that ALWAYS ensures the very best for his students; those young men and women whom he teaches and more importantly prepares for life. I remain...

Semper Fidelis,



D.A. Bethel

LtCol, USMC (Ret)

USNA '79

Senior Instructor USNA, 1986-89

Recommendation for Michael Vandereedt

It is my distinct pleasure to highly recommend innovative educator Michael Vandereedt for the teacher position on the State Board of Education. Over the past ten years, this dynamic instructor has dazzled the Arundel High community with his imaginative manner and natural ability to inspire teens in embracing intellectual discourse while exhibiting their best efforts in a wide variety of creative simulations and stimulating debates. From these experiences, Michael has gleaned an uncanny ability to connect with young people of a wide variety of ability levels and backgrounds. In so many ways he unearthed the secret sauce of classroom education with which he enlivened the experiences of students while making deep impressions upon their future outlook and determination to embrace life's challenges. Testimonials revealing the value of his work are delivered in heartfelt verbal salutes by twelfth graders expressing their gratitude to Michael before lining up to accept their diplomas during Arundel's annual graduation ceremony. Other former students visit him in the classroom on a regular basis to acknowledge how he helped them mature and grow intellectually.

Beyond Michael's natural role as a resource for both instructors and administrative leaders in articulating the best methods for public school education, he has an unflappable faith in the possibilities which can be pursued to provide the most meaningful experiences for Maryland's youth over the next decade. His astute observations and reflections upon the policies of the system accurately reflect successes as well as highlighting the shortcomings which require study and reflective problem solving. Plus, Michael's enlightening articulation of creative strategies would enrich the efforts of the state to tackle the chronic dilemmas confounding our public schools.

Seize the opportunity to invite this lifetime educator, dynamic philosopher and committed citizen to join the effort to mold the state's education policies for the next generation!

Matthew G. Hall
Social Studies Department
Arundel High School

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to recommend Michael Vandereedt for the Teacher Member to the State Board of Education. As Michael's colleague and department chair at Arundel High School, I have worked with and supervised Michael professionally for eight years. In that time, Michael has shown himself to be a dedicated educator passionate about growing his craft in order to reach all students.

Michael is a creative out-of-the-box thinker when it comes to pedagogy. He constantly pushes himself to develop lessons that are engaging and challenging for his students. One of his signature activities are simulations, in which Michael builds experiences for his students that require them to think beyond their own opinions and knowledge in order to grow their capacity not only for content-based understanding, but to grow their ability to empathize, analyze, and deeply absorb events from the past and relationships in the present. This dedication to growing the capabilities of his students will translate well to service on the State Board of Education through his thoughtfulness of different perspectives and his care in giving voice to others.

Michael is also very service-minded. He has created new clubs and resurrected old ones due to student demand. His sacrifice of personal time for the benefit of his students is commendable and is an asset to someone serving as the State Board of Education Teacher Member.

Lastly, Michael is a reflective professional, constantly striving to better himself and his craft through reflection and collaboration with others. He openly bounces ideas off his colleagues and seeks out their opinions and counsel. This gives him insight into the needs of teachers and students alike within the schoolhouse and beyond.

Respectfully,

Erin Lange

Social Studies Department Chair, Arundel HS