

ERIC MENDELSON, M.S.Ed., M.S.

Queens, NY 11357 | (718) 902-3759 | emendel2@schools.nyc.gov

Visual Arts Teacher | NYC Public Schools | Classroom Management | Student Engagement

Veteran Visual Arts Teacher with 25+ years of experience in NYC public schools, specializing in classroom management, student engagement, and standards-aligned instruction. Trusted to stabilize learning environments, reduce behavioral disruptions, and support diverse learners through restorative practices and culturally responsive curriculum. Known for delivering reliable, high-impact instruction that improves student outcomes, strengthens classroom culture, and allows schools to operate effectively with minimal oversight.

CERTIFICATIONS

- **New York State Permanent Certification** in Art Education K–12, Control Number 498017041
- **School District Administrator Certificate**, NYS, Control Number 80743071

CORE COMPETENCIES

Classroom Management & Culture Building | Standards-Aligned Visual Arts Instruction (K–12)
Curriculum Design & Project-Based Learning | Student Engagement & Differentiated Instruction
Restorative Practices & Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) | Culturally Responsive Teaching & Arts Integration
Instructional Technology Integration | Adobe Creative Suite | Google Workspace | Canva

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Visual Arts Teacher

Business of Sports School, Manhattan, NY | Sept 2018 – Present

- Designed and delivered NYS standards-aligned visual arts curriculum that integrated historical inquiry, identity, and social context to increase relevance and student engagement.
- Developed culturally responsive instructional units aligned to Black History Month, Women’s History Month, LGBTQIA+ Pride, and Mental Health Awareness, supporting inclusive classroom culture.
- Implemented standards-based “I Can” rubrics and digital portfolios, resulting in 90% of students progressing from Beginning to Proficient or higher.
- Strengthened classroom culture and reduced student tardiness by 25% through consistent use of restorative circle practices and clear behavioral expectations.
- Selected student work featured in Morningside Center professional development sessions, supporting instructional best practices for 200+ educators.

Visual Arts Teacher & Dean of Students

ITAVA, Brooklyn, NY | Sept 2016 – June 2018

- Served as Visual Arts Teacher and Dean of Students, supporting classroom instruction while leading restorative conferences and family engagement initiatives that reduced behavioral referrals by 30% and improved attendance and student engagement.

- Integrated visual arts instruction with school-wide culture-building and restorative practices, reinforcing consistent expectations across classrooms and supporting instructional time.

Dean of Students

Origins High School, Brooklyn, NY | Sept 2015 – June 2016

- Served as Dean of Students, supporting school-wide attendance, safety, and student support systems to improve classroom readiness and instructional continuity.
- Collaborated with families, counselors, and support staff to align behavioral interventions with academic goals.
- Launched peer mediation and SEL initiatives that reduced conflicts and supported positive classroom culture.

Art Teacher, Dean & Tech Coordinator

Kurt Hahn Expeditionary Learning School, Brooklyn, NY | Sept 2007 – June 2015

- Delivered interdisciplinary visual arts instruction within an Expeditionary Learning (EL Education) framework, integrating project-based learning and public exhibitions to demonstrate student mastery.
- Designed and facilitated student-led exhibitions that showcased academic growth, artistic process, and community engagement.
- Served as Technology Coordinator, supporting digital portfolios and capstone projects while leading school-wide instructional technology integration aligned to classroom needs.

NYC Public Schools — Bronx, NY | Sept 1997 -June 2007

- Taught visual arts at the elementary and middle school levels within NYC public schools, building a strong foundation in classroom management, curriculum design, and student engagement.
- Founded after-school art programs and school-wide arts showcases, expanding student access to the arts and strengthening school culture.

Instructional Technology Integration

- Integrated Adobe Creative Suite to deliver digital art units and curate student e-portfolios, increasing online exhibition engagement by 40%.
- Designed instructional videos and interactive Smartboard lessons to support self-paced learning, reducing makeup-work requests by 25% and increasing on-task engagement to 92%.
- Led instructional technology professional development on Google Workspace and Canva, supporting 30+ teachers in creating accessible, visually engaging classroom materials.

EDUCATION

- **M.S. in School Administration & Supervision**, Mercy College – *With Distinction*
- **M.S. in Learning Technology**, Mercy College – *With Distinction*
- **B.S. in Communication Production**, SUNY New Paltz
- **A.A.S. in Graphic Arts**, SUNY Rockland – *With Distinction*