

Kristen Ball

<https://www.kristenball.com/>

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Teachers College

Masters of Arts, Politics and Education; Education Policy Concentration
Organization and Leadership: Education Leadership, completed 30 credits

Boston College, College of Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Arts, French; Business Concentration

AWARD-WINNING PUBLISHED AUTHOR

A Calf Named Brian Higgins: An Adventure in Rural Kenya

Published by Red Chair Press

- Nautilus Book Award: Gold Level, middle grade fiction
- Literary Titan Book Awards: Literary Titan Gold Award
- Northern Lights Book Award: Gold Level, pre-teen cultural category
- Moonbeam Children's Book Award: Bronze Level, pre-teen fiction
- Book Excellence Award: Global Celebration of Literary Excellence

WORK EXPERIENCE

On the Ball Tutoring LLC – Darien, CT

Founder & CEO

November 1, 2021 – present

On the Ball Tutoring LLC provides individualized one-on-one academic tutoring and executive functioning skills and strategies with a focus on building strong and trusting relationships with students and holding them to the high expectations they deserve in a caring and positive way, recognizing social and emotional learning as an integral part of a student's skills set.

- Created On the Ball Tutoring LLC to meet the growing needs of students and their families
- Execute mission statement (above) with elementary, middle, and high school students
- Foster a collaborative approach to student learning; communicate with families and schools
- Work closely with local school districts to provide individualized short term homebound instruction to students
- Manage all administrative aspects of the business

Sacred Heart University – Fairfield, CT

Adjunct Instructor

August 2023 – present

- Teaching First Year Writing Seminar to two sections of the freshman class
- Designing and implementing content, instruction, and assignments around Sacred Heart University's mission of sustainable development

Sasco River Center (merger between The Southfield Center and Sensory Kids) – Darien, CT

Learning Specialist

September 2017 – June 2022

- Provided executive functioning skills and strategies for students of all ages – including planning, organizing, and prioritizing workload; breaking down assignments and making a plan; individualizing studying and test-taking strategies; using outlines and graphic organizers to articulate and expand on ideas in written work; setting goals; establishing and sticking to routines and schedules; encouraging meeting with teachers
- Provided academic tutoring for students of all ages – including providing feedback on written work; talking through books and texts; using context, evidence, and analysis to strengthen written work; working together to complete study guides; contextualizing books and lessons; answering questions while encouraging meeting with teachers

New Canaan Country School – New Canaan, CT

Fifth Grade Teacher

July 2007 – June 2016

- Combined teaching traditional curriculum with creating new units of study and opportunities for global studies, including a School-to-School program with students and teachers in Mbola, Tanzania
- Built classroom community through service-learning activities, including student-driven 5B Cares year-long project and partnership with a local Head Start program
- Mentored an apprentice teacher each year, providing skills in classroom management, curriculum planning, report writing, and parent communication
- Coached cross country to middle school students

The School at Columbia University – New York, NY

Director, Admissions & Outreach and Fourth Grade Teacher

July 2004 – July 2007

- Worked closely with the Office of the Provost; created and implemented all outreach efforts to the neighborhood to ensure consistent admissions policies for University affiliates and community families
- Supervised and managed admissions visits by families and produced all print materials, web site announcements, and interim and year-end reports on the admissions process
- Worked with grade level team and child study specialists to design and implement an integrated curriculum to a diverse community of fourth grade students
- Co-created and coached a running club to children ages 6 – 12 and partnered with the New York Road Runners Foundation in road races and track and field meets

Bar Sauri, Bar Turro, & Nyamnia Schools – Sauri, Kenya

Volunteer Teacher

On behalf of The School at Columbia University and the United Nations Millennium Villages Project, created a structure for ongoing communication between schools in Sauri, Kenya and The School at Columbia University to serve as a model for all Millennium Villages Project sites

Higher Education

Mercy College – Bronx, NY

Adjunct Instructor

Taught *Education Policy, Addressing Decisions that Impact the Classroom* and *Re-Imagining Schools: Philosophies of Education* to NYC Teaching Fellows

Non-Profit

TC Innovations, Teachers College, Columbia University – New York, NY

Assistant Director

Identified business and non-profit partners, developed and customized proposals to maximize grants and foundations awards, and managed budget and administration

Education Policy

McGraw-Hill Education, Public and Government Affairs – New York, NY

Educational Policy Consultant

Researched and reported on trends in curriculum and funding at the federal, state, and local levels to provide relevant information to business units of McGraw-Hill Companies

Education Publishing

TIME For Kids, a division of AOL Time Warner — New York, NY

Online Marketing Manager

Integrated online print and licensing sales, and developed and executed programs for marketing timeforkids.com subscriptions

Key Accounts Manager

Expanded TIME For Kids' presence in schools by creating and implementing targeted sales and marketing strategies print and online, and managing conventions and advisory boards

Prentice Hall School Division — Upper Saddle River, NJ

Marketing Manager, Language Arts

Developed and executed marketing plans and collateral to maximize revenue

Macmillan/McGraw-Hill School Division — New York, NY

Marketing Coordinator, Mathematics

Coordinated from inception to completion the cost-effective production of sales support materials

CERTIFICATES, CONFERENCES, and COURSEWORK

Connecticut and New York State Teaching Certifications

Be Shri Yoga RYS 200-hour teaching certification

Where There Be Dragons Educator Programs, Nepal and Cambodia

Age of Sustainable Development course passed with distinction

CAIS speaker and presenter

ISEEN member and conference attendee

Project Adventure certified