

Mr. Gary L. Ray
President
Ray and Associates, Inc.
4403 First Avenue
Suite 407
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402-3221

Dear Mr. Ray:

As a passionate and visionary educator from New England, I have been closely monitoring the Florida School system since my arrival in July of 2009. My move to Florida was necessitated by my wife's employment as the CEO of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce. Formerly a Vice Principal at Falmouth High School on Cape Cod, I have a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership, a military background and years of experience as a successful business owner.

I began my career in education in 2001, a mid-career shift, in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts, teaching Spanish and French to sixth through twelfth grades. On Cape Cod I was able to move into the role of administrator where I excelled at safety planning, school assessment for certification, student motivation and management and movement of school property and personnel throughout a major expansion and renovation of the existing structure. During this time I became very active with the Falmouth town committee for affordable employee housing giving me significant exposure to the nuances of managing public desire with the needs of school personnel. I also planned and executed strategic planning workshops with faculty members to define a vision, mission and objectives to reach the next phase of the school's development post construction.

Most recently I am teaching middle school in a parochial environment, while searching for my next career challenge. Just prior to this, I was the Project Director for a 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Florida Department of Education Grant for the YMCA of the Palms in Bonita Springs, Florida. As the Director I was responsible for grant writing, comprehensive project planning and implementation, and award management. I developed curriculum, managed hiring, training and monitored guidelines for the multi-site project, providing strict oversight to ensure compliance with federal and state guidelines

Previously as a Captain in the Army I honed my leadership and management skills coordinating the movement of thousands of troops, creating and managing large budgets, and providing mentoring for the young men and women in my charge. A skilled communicator in multiple languages, I was often sent in ahead of the Western Pacific Command to lay the ground work for our arrival in a community; resulting in effective maneuvers and local goodwill.

I also have years of experience as a business owner in the restaurant, lodging and financial industries. As a matter of course, I consistently employ the tenets of solid financial management and oversight to the fiscal operations of every organization in which I am involved. Because of the current economic environment, it is my personal belief that we must execute a thorough quality assessment of the Florida education system in order to reconstruct the organization; incorporating process improvement, talent development and innovation at every level.

Ultimately, I believe I am a strong candidate for this position, because my vision for quality education in the United States coupled with my global experience, brings just the right balance of foresight and business acumen necessary to reposition the Florida system for tomorrow's global reality. I look forward to discussing by qualifications for the position of Commissioner of Education for the State of Florida at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Ross, M. Ed.



**Application for the Position of
The Commissioner of Education**

Name: Ross Robert Patrick **Date:** 6/6/2011
Last First Middle

Address: 9964 Puopolo Lane Bonita Springs FL 34135 **E-mail:** atltraders@aol.com
Street City State Zip

Phone: 239-405-3814 **Fax #:** _____
Home Business Cell

EDUCATIONAL RECORD

Name & Location of Institution Attended	Year(s)	Degree	Major(s)	Minor(s)
Bridgewater State College, MA	2006-2008	M.Ed.	Ed. Leadership	
UCONN, CT	1981-1985	BS	Int. Economics	Pol. Philosophy

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

(Indicate relevant leadership responsibilities)

ASCD _____

NEA _____

AOPA _____

EXPERIENCE

(List in consecutive order beginning with the next most recent position following the position listed on page 1.)

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Position/Institution/Location</i>	<i>Supervisor's Name & Title</i>	<i>Supervisor's Phone</i>
To: present	Instructor, Royal Palm Academy Naples, FL	Dr. M. Richardson Principal	(Business) 239-594-9888
From: 8/2010			(Home)
<i>Reason for leaving (please be specific):</i> To assume position as Commissioner of Education, State of Florida			
To: 5/2010	Director, 21st CCLC program	James Underwood	(Business) N/
From: 10/2009	Bonita Springs YMCA	Manager	(Home)
<i>Reason for leaving (please be specific):</i> Economic Downsizing			
To: 9/2009	Teacher, Administrator	Joseph Driscoll	(Business) 508-540-2200
From: 8/2003	Falmouth High School Falmouth, MA	Principal	(Home)
<i>Reason for leaving (please be specific):</i> Family relocation, TS			
To: 6/2003	Teacher	Russel Norton	(Business) 413-458-9582
From: 8/2002	Mt. Greylock Reg. High School Williamstown, MA	Principal	(Home)
<i>Reason for leaving (please be specific):</i> Career change			

REFERENCES

(Names of four persons who can discuss your experience and qualifications in detail.)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Official Position</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>
Margaret Richardson, Dr.	Principal, Royal Palm Academy	<i>Business</i> 239-594-9888
		<i>Home</i>
		<i>Cell</i>
Joseph Driscoll	Principal, Falmouth High School	<i>Business</i> 508-540-2200
		<i>Home</i>
		<i>Cell</i>
Marc Dupuis	Superintendent, Falmouth Public Schools	<i>Business</i> 508-540-0150
		<i>Home</i>
		<i>Cell</i>
Mark Sullivan	Deputy Chief Falmouth Fire Rescue	<i>Business</i> 508-274-6420
		<i>Home</i>
		<i>Cell</i>

BACKGROUND CHECK AND INFORMATION

In addition to the following information, a thorough background check may be made at the option of the employer.

If "Yes" is selected in response to any question, attach additional sheets and clearly identify as Background Check and Information with a detailed explanation:

"YES" answers to the following questions will not necessarily result in denial of an offer of employment. The employer will consider all the circumstances, including the date and nature of events that have led to the actions described below. Your written explanation will assist the employer in determining your eligibility and suitability for an offer of employment.

1. Have you ever been convicted of, admitted committing, pleaded no contest, or are you awaiting trial for any crime (excluding only minor traffic violations that do not involve any allegations of alcohol, drugs or reckless driving) or have any civil charges previously or pending involving allegations of child abuse or spousal abuse? You must answer "YES" if true, even if the matter was later dismissed, deferred, reversed, or vacated. If you answer "YES" you must provide dates of the proceedings, the name and address of the court where the proceedings occurred, a statement of the accusation against you and the final disposition of the case(s).

No

Yes, attach a separate sheet for explanation

2. Have you ever been dismissed (fired) from any job, or resigned at the request of or pressure from your employer, or left employment while charges against you or an investigation of your behavior was pending or been refused tenure, reappointment or continuing contract from any employer? You must answer "YES" if true, even if the matter was later resolved with any form of settlement or severance agreement, regardless of its terms. If you answer "YES" you must provide the date of termination or resignation and other action concerning tenure reappointment or continuing contract denial and the name, address and telephone number of the employer(s) and a statement of the alleged reasons for termination or resignation.

No

Yes, attach a separate sheet for explanation

3. Have you ever had any license or certificate of any kind (teaching certificate or other professional license) revoked, suspended, or reprimanded, or have you in any way been sanctioned by or is any charge or complaint now pending against you before any licensing, certification or other regulatory agency or body, public or private? If you answer "YES" you must provide the dates of proceedings, name, address and telephone number of the agency or body where proceedings took place, a statement of the accusations against you, the final disposition and/or status of the charge or complaint.

No

Yes, attach a separate sheet for explanation

4. Are you now being investigated for any alleged misconduct or other alleged grounds for discipline by any licensing, certification or other regulatory body (teacher certification or otherwise) or by your current or any previous employer? If you answer "YES" you must provide the name, address and telephone number of the employer or licensing body and statement of the accusation against you.

No

Yes, attach a separate sheet for explanation

5. Have you ever been involved, or are you currently involved, or do you anticipate involvement in litigation either as the plaintiff/complainant or defendant/respondent?

No

Yes, attach a separate sheet for explanation

6. Have you ever filed a grievance/complaint of any kind against an employer?

No

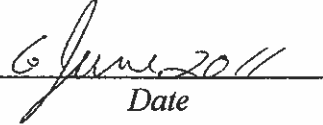
Yes, attach a separate sheet for explanation

VERIFICATION STATEMENT

(Please read carefully and sign the statement below.)

The information in the Application for Employment is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I have answered all questions to the best of my ability and I have not withheld any information that would unfavorably affect my application for employment. I acknowledge that any misrepresentation or omission of any fact in my application, resume, or any other materials, or during any interviews, may be the cause for my rejection from employment or may result in my subsequent dismissal if I am hired.


Signature


Date

APPLICANT'S FILE MUST INCLUDE:

- A letter of application stating personal qualifications, experiences, and reasons for interest in the position.
- A *signed* official application form and current resume.
- The names of four persons who will serve as references and can be contacted. *(Include name, title, and telephone numbers for both home and business and a cell phone number, if known.)*
- Several *current* letters of recommendation.

Please Direct All Inquiries,
Applications and Supporting Materials To:

Ray and Associates, Inc.

4403 First Avenue SE, Suite 407

Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402-3221

319/393-3115 Phone

319/393-4931 Fax

E-mail: glr@rayassoc.com

Website: www.rayassoc.com

*DO NOT CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OR BOARD DIRECTLY.*

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

MAY 25, 2011

Neither the Florida Department of Education nor any members of Ray and Associates, Inc. discriminate on the basis of disability, race, religion, sex, national origin, or age in access to, employment in, or in the provision of any programs, benefits or activities.

Robert P. Ross, M.Ed.

9964 Puopolo Lane, Bonita Springs, Florida 34135
Cell 239-405-3814, e-mail atltraders@aol.com

OBJECTIVE

To secure a position as an educator and/or administrator where my experience, training, foreign language skills, financial acumen and passion can move an organization forward; while also guiding it toward progressive collaborative relationships and academic excellence.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Royal Palm Academy, Naples, FL, (Aug 2010-present)

- Responsible for teaching U.S History, Geography and Latin courses to 6-8 grade students
- WorldQuest Coach; National Geography Bee Administrator
- Completed FLDOE Clinical Education Course, Mentor teacher to outside student teachers

Project Director, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Florida Department of Education Grant, YMCA of the Palms, Bonita Springs, FL (October 2009-May 2010)

- Responsible for total project planning and implementation, grant writing and award management
- Developed curriculum, staff hiring, training and monitoring guidelines for multi-site project
- Provided strict oversight to ensure compliance with federal and state guidelines
- Provided on-site direction and support to leadership team to ensure required learning was met

House Administrator/Asst. Principal, Falmouth High School, Falmouth, MA (Aug 2007 to July 2009)

- Evacuation/School Safety Designer- Local Emergency Planning Committee member
- District Dropout Prevention Task-force Member, High School representative
- Evaluator/Advisor for FHS faculty, Mentor Teacher
- NEASC Committee Co-chair; District Instructional Leadership Team

Spanish-French Teacher, Falmouth High School, Falmouth, MA. (August 2003 to July 2009)

- NEASC evaluator, Leadership Committee and Safety Committee member
- PTPI club advisor (People to People International) and Chess club advisor
- Head Sailing Coach 2003, Assistant Rugby Coach 2004-2007
- Woods Hole Affordable Housing Committee, school district representative

Spanish Teacher, Mt. Greylock Regional High School, Williamstown, MA. (August 2002-June 2003)

- Member Foreign Language Association of Berkshire County

Associate, Ross Financial Group, Pittsfield, MA (December 2000-March 2002)

- Agent advising and assisting professionals, small business owners and high net worth individuals in the area of insurance, annuities, pensions and mutual funds
- Executed leadership and administrative training programs for all new personnel
- Managed a portfolio of over \$300 million

Financial Advisor, Berkshire Life Insurance Company, Pittsfield, MA (1998-2000)

- Brokerage Manager for over 600 agents, attained NASD series 6 and 63 licenses
- Career Agent advising and training personnel in all aspects of financial restructuring and insurance

International Operations Consultant/Director, Pepe Rico, S.L., Nerja, Malaga, Spain (1992-1998)

- Redesigned both interior and exterior of exclusive 15 room hotel and restaurant
- Designed a business plan and refinanced for significant savings using the international market
- Reduced operating costs 24% while raising product quality, increasing local market share 37%
- Succeeded in reacquiring the restaurant's coveted Michelin Guide recognition

Captain, United States Army – Infantry, U.S. and Pacific areas (1985-1992)

- Selected for and completed Ranger School, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Airborne School, Air Assault School, Tactical Light Fighters Course and Pacific Arms Management School
- Awarded by both U.S. and foreign military and government officials for foreign liaison work as well as subject instructor for foreign national troops
- Selected for Protocol Officer for the General Staff of the Western Pacific Command
- On-site instructor and coordinator for joint military exercises and meetings throughout Southeast Asia and the Pacific Rim including security arrangements and details for visiting dignitaries
- Responsible for training and overseeing 150 personnel while managing a budget of \$6 mil.

TECHNOLOGY

Proficient in multiple computer programs including Microsoft Outlook, Excel, Power Point and Word

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Fluent in English and Spanish, strong knowledge of French, some Latin

EDUCATION

FLDOE Clinical Education Course, FGCU, 2011

Master of Education in Educational Leadership, Bridgewater State College, 2008

Administrators license for Principal/Assistant Principal, Mass DOE

Letter of Eligibility, Educational Leadership (All Levels) FL DOE

Teacher, Spanish, certification Mass DOE

University of Connecticut, Bachelor, International Economics and Political Philosophy 1985

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

ASCD Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

NEA National Educators Association

ICS Incident Command System certified (FEMA)

AOPA Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association

ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

- International travel, bicycling, reading, sailing, aviation, and history

References available upon request

Joseph Driscoll
P.O. Box 96
North Falmouth, Ma.
508-563-6135

I am writing this letter of recommendation, for Mr. Rob Ross. I have worked with Rob for the past three years as a House Administrator at Falmouth High School. Rob is a respected and talented teacher; who develops a strong rapport with everyone he contacts. As a teacher Rob is dedicated and creative, his classes are full of energy and a true sense that Mr. Ross enjoys his students and teaching.

Rob is often sought out by students for guidance in any number of different situations that may arise. Rob is very supportive of all students and you will often find him at many of the extra curricular activities.

Rob is respected by his peers he is always willing to put forth the extra time and effort, in many of our leadership or curriculum groups... I have encouraged Rob to pursue his certification as an administrator, so that he can share his talents and leadership qualities with the faculty and staff...

It should be clear from what I have written that I extend my strongest recommendation. If I can comment any further, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely



Joseph Driscoll
Falmouth High School
508-540-2200
Ext 143

FALMOUTH
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS



OFFICE
OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT

May 14, 2009

Letter of Reference: Robert Ross

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Robert Ross. Rob is currently an employee at Falmouth High School serving as a House Administrator (60%) and Foreign Language Teacher (40%). He has at all times performed his duties in a professional and dependable manner, and is a true asset to the Falmouth High School Staff.

I have personally worked with Rob in developing a Safety/Security Plan. Rob was very effective and dedicated to the project and was a large reason a final plan was developed and implemented.

It is without hesitation that I recommend Robert Ross for a position in your School District.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc R. Dupuis".

Marc R. Dupuis

Superintendent

MPD:gd

May 18, 2011



ROYAL PALM
ACADEMY

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter of reference for Mr. Rob Ross, who has been employed at Royal Palm Academy for the past year as a history and geography teacher as well as a middle school teacher of Latin. Mr. Ross also volunteered to attend an overnight trip with our middle school students and served as a mentor to our sixth grade students. He has excellent classroom management and works well with the team of teachers in our middle school program.

Due to a need to consolidate classes, we do not have a position for Mr. Ross. However, without reservation, I recommend him for a teaching position, particularly in the middle or high school grades.

He would be effective in the classroom as well as in a position requiring an administrative background.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Richardson".

Margaret A. Richardson, Ed.D.

Acting Head of School

Excellence in Private Catholic Education

16100 Livingston Road ♦ Naples, Florida 34110 ♦ (239) 594-9888 ♦ Fax (239) 594-9898