

Dr. Abdiqani Elmi

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Professional Objective

Dedicated Special Education Teacher with extensive experience supporting students with emotional and educational disabilities. Highly skilled in designing engaging, student-centered instruction and fostering inclusive learning environments that promote academic achievement, social development, and lifelong learning. Committed to building strong partnerships with students, families, and colleagues to ensure success for all learners.

Education

- Bethel University — Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Administration K-12 with Principal Licensure.
- University of St. Thomas — M.Ed. (Master of Education), Special Education with Teaching License
- Metropolitan State University — Bachelor of Science in Business Administration/Economics
- Saint Paul College — Associate of Arts

Professional Experience

Universal Academy Charter School – Minneapolis, MN

Special Education Teacher / Case Manager

2022 – Present

- Provide individualized instruction for students with mild, moderate, and severe disabilities.
- Implement evidence-based instructional strategies to support academic, social, and behavioral growth.
- Develop, manage, and monitor IEPs in compliance with federal and state regulations.
- Collaborate closely with general education teachers, administrators, and families to support student success.
- Foster an inclusive classroom environment that promotes confidence, engagement, and academic rigor.

Minnesota International Middle School – Minneapolis, MN

Educational Assistant, Substitute Teacher, & Special Education Teacher

2007 – 2022

- Supported students with emotional and educational disabilities in inclusive and resource settings.
- Assisted with curriculum implementation, lesson planning, and differentiated instruction.
- Promoted student development in critical thinking, social skills, and academic achievement.
- Built strong, collaborative relationships with students, families, and school staff.
- Encouraged student engagement through challenging and meaningful learning experiences.

Additional Skills

- **Languages:** Somali, English, Arabic
- **Expertise:**
 - Special Education (mild, moderate, severe disabilities)
 - IEP development and compliance
 - Behavior management and intervention
 - Inclusive and culturally responsive teaching practices
- **Strengths:**
 - Strong classroom management
 - Effective collaboration with staff and families
 - Student-centered instruction
 - Leadership and advocacy for diverse learners