

Ann Hennessey

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Professional Experience: Writing

1996-Present: Newspaper and Magazine Writing

Freelance Writer

- Recent work published in the *Sacramento Business Journal*, California Department of Fish and Wildlife's *Outdoor California*, and *Dandelion*
- Prior freelance articles published in *The Sacramento Bee*, *Cal State San Bernardino Magazine*, *Phi Delta Kappan*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Boys' Life*, *The Press-Enterprise*, *Outdoor California* and *Tracks*. Wrote text for Cal State San Bernardino Foundation's 2002-03 annual report.
- Co-winner of 2007 California State Information Officers Council gold award for writing (freelance work for state Department of Fish and Wildlife).
- Assisted state Department of Fish and Wildlife in researching and writing a special publication on the salmon crisis in California.

2000-Present: Grant Writing

Education Grant Writer

- California Fertilizer Foundation grant, 2014, Elk Grove Unified School District
- River Valley Garden Club grant, 2014, Elk Grove Unified School District
- Literacy for Life Grant, California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom and the Oreggia Family Foundation, 2013, Elk Grove Unified School District
- Kerr Middle School, Lowe's grant for upgrading science classrooms, 2011-12, Elk Grove Unified School District
- Wrote several successful grants to fund school gardening and nutrition program at Alessandro (continuation) High School, Hemet Unified School District, including 4-H grant to purchase and plant shade trees and mental health grant that funded murals.
- Co-wrote successful grant to create technical and applied science charter high school (HAAAT) for the Hemet Unified School District.
- Wrote and implemented WorkAbility I grant for Hemet Unified School District to train special education students for workforce.
- Grant Writing Certificate: California State University, San Bernardino Extension, completed 2001.

2008-present: Fiction Writing

Children's Fiction Writer

- In editing process of historical novel set in one of California's first reform schools during the early 1900's. Written for teenagers with low reading skills.
- Awarded Zoe Barnum Fellowship to attend Vermont Studio Center for fiction writing. Attended in June 2010 in Johnson, Vermont.

- Member of Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators
- Member of Sacramento-area writers group meeting monthly at local bookstore

1997: **Political Writing**

Press Secretary

- Press secretary for Riverside County Supervisor Jim Venable’s successful campaign for office. Wrote speeches and press releases, coordinated media calls and interviews, advised candidate on issues.

1984-1996: **Daily Newspaper Reporting, California**

Newspaper Reporter

- Worked for *The (Fairfield) Daily Republic, The Antioch Ledger, The Sacramento Union, and The (Riverside) Press-Enterprise* covering a variety of beats. Won numerous awards, including Inland Empire Society of Professional Journalists’ first place sweepstakes award, reporting and writing, in 1996.

Professional Experience: Teaching and Education

Aug. 2009-Present **Elk Grove Unified School District** Elk Grove, California

Special Education Teacher and FHS Garden Project Coordinator, Franklin High School

Teaching remedial English courses. Writing individualized educational programs and leading meetings, including some of the school’s more complex cases. Completed special education leadership program. Assistive technology liaison for school. Trainer of trainers on the Special Education Information System (SEIS). Member of Franklin High School site advisory council. Conducted school-wide evaluation of strategies lab. Mentored new special education teachers. Past-adviser for special education club to raise money for field trips. Coordinating FHS Garden Project, a campus-wide collaborative effort across academic and career technical disciplines. Overseeing Elk Grove Unified School District School Garden Network on Edmodo, social media for educators. Organized training in autism for general education teacher, 2014. Organized training in electronic portfolios for high school special education teachers district-wide, 2014.

July 2008-August 2009 **California Department of Education** Sacramento, California

Visiting Educator, Hemet Unified School District

CDE Consultant

- Worked in Special Education Division, focused monitoring and technical assistance unit. From July 2008 through May 2009 worked as a Visiting Educator. Hired by CDE as Consultant June 2009. Provided guidance to school districts within El Dorado, Shasta and Butte counties. Participated in special education verification reviews at Santa Clara and Sacramento county juvenile court schools and several school districts. Co-led review in Butte County. Assisted with state WorkAbility I Program. Reviewed 21st Century After-School Program and NCLB-mandated tutoring program applications statewide for funding. Assisted in court-mandated corrective actions at an East Palo Alto school district.

2007-08 **Hemet Unified School District**

Hemet, California

Consultant

- Oversaw state verification review for school district's Special Education Department. Cleared majority of district's non-compliance issues. Coordinated individualized education program corrections, worked with district department heads and legal counsel to write special education procedures, compiled district procedural handbook, worked with district technology department to rewrite Student Support Services website, and made presentations at leadership meetings.

2007 **River Springs Charter School** Indio, California

Charter School Teacher

- Re-organized high school English department, taught high school exit exam intervention to juniors and seniors, and launched three new student publications (newspaper, yearbook and literary magazine) at charter school. Student population mostly English learners with low academic skills.

1998-2007 **Hemet Unified School District** Hemet, California

Alternative Education Teacher

- Taught freshman English, junior literature, special education, career education, basic skills and intervention classes in alternative education setting. Ran special education program for students in continuation and adult school classes. Advised independent study teachers on special education issues as they arose. Attended all IEPs for comprehensive high school students considering alternative education placement, and acted as district's alternative education specialist at these IEPs. Oversaw 21st Century-funded online credit recovery program for alternative education students after regular school hours. Collaborated with California Department of Rehabilitation, California Employment Development Department, and Workforce Investment Act-funded community programs to teach job skills and match students with employers. Created interagency school garden program, organized painting of two school murals, and implemented school nutrition education program at continuation school. Assisted parents home-schooling their children with curriculum materials and lesson plans through district's home-school program. Assisted continuation school counselor with intake assessments and orientations, using adult school testing materials.

Professional Activities

Preschool and Elementary Education

- William Land Elementary School, Sacramento, Southside Park area: Volunteer tutor for sixth-graders through Westminster Presbyterian Church program. Volunteered one hour weekly in math and ELA during 2009-10 school year.
- Served as education coordinator for Riverside County Farm Bureau. Assisted Hemet and San Jacinto unified school district classroom teachers in acquiring resources to educate students about nutrition and agriculture. Coordinator of first Riverside County Ag Day in May 2008 at the California Citrus State Historical Park in Riverside.
- Former member of the San Jacinto Unified School District strategic plan committee and the Record Elementary School site advisory council (San Jacinto USD).
- Past-president, Record Elementary School (San Jacinto) charter PTA.

- Past-president and board member, bylaws and fundraising committees, VIP Tots Early Intervention Program, Hemet, CA

Secondary Education

- Named Outstanding Educator for State of California by California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, 2013-14. Speaker at California Farm Bureau annual meeting. California representative at national Agriculture in the Classroom conference, Hershey, Pennsylvania. Presented a workshop to educators at the state CFAITC conference in Santa Cruz, 2014.
- Coordinator of Franklin High School Garden Project (Elk Grove USD): Oversee school garden and greenhouse; lead steering committee comprised of teachers, administrators, custodial, students, and community members; write grants to support program. Partnerships include U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University of California Master Gardeners, and California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. The California Department of Food and Agriculture and Sacramento State University videotaped and interviewed students in 2014 for inclusion in video on agricultural literacy.
- Worked with Educational Testing Service and California Department of Education to assist in establishing scoring benchmarks for the 11th grade English-Language Arts-California Modified Assessment examinations, 2011.
- Member of Franklin and Elk Grove high school site councils, Elk Grove Unified School District.
- Participated in pilot Financial Literacy program for teachers at CalSTRS during Thanksgiving break, 2010. Project from the program is a transition guide for parents and students with disabilities; worked with Independent Living Skills program and math resource teacher at Franklin High School to complete guide.
- Riverside County Free Library Advisory Committee: Past-member representing six county libraries. Brought Hemet and San Jacinto school districts together with county to form the first two joint school-community libraries in the county, now located at Hamilton and San Jacinto high schools. Was appointed by county supervisor.

Teaching Credentials

- Autism Spectrum Disorders Authorization, University of California, Davis Extension, 2014.
- Certificate of Eligibility for the Preliminary Administrative Credential, California State University, Sacramento, 2011.
- Education Specialist Instruction Credential (Special Education, Mild-Moderate, Second Level): California State University, San Bernardino, 2002.
- Clear Basic Teaching Credential, Secondary English: UC Riverside Extension, 1999.
- Preliminary Basic Teaching Credential, Secondary English with photography authorization: University of Redlands, 1997.

- Cross-cultural, Language, and Academic Development (CLAD) certification to teach English learners University of San Diego, 2005.

Education

2010-2011 **Sacramento State University** Sacramento, California

Administrative Credential Program

- Completed in December 2011. Chosen as participant in the Elk Grove Unified School District Cohort program.

1999-2002 **California State University** San Bernardino, California

Master's Degree, Special Education

- 3.8 GPA
- Master's thesis was "Reducing California's Special Education Costs by Improving Access to Early Childhood Intervention: A Policy Review," dealing with the effect of HMOs and managed care in California on early childhood intervention for ages 0-3. Presented thesis at the CSUSB College of Education Research Symposium, May 2002.

1990 **Sacramento City College** Sacramento, California

Associate's Degree, Photography

1984 **University of Montana** Missoula, Montana

Bachelor's Degree, Journalism with minor in French