JULIAN MERCER

STUDENT TEACHER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Elementary education major completing a full-semester student teaching placement in a third grade classroom. Plans and teaches reading and math lessons, assesses student work, and partners with a mentor teacher. Brings earlier experience tutoring and leading youth programs.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Student Teacher, Grade 3 Aug 2026 - Present
Lansing School District, Lansing, MI

- Teach full-day lessons in a third grade class of 25 students, taking over reading, math, and morning routines by week eight.
- Plan and deliver 30 formal lessons for reading and math, aligned to Michigan standards, with written feedback from the mentor teacher.
- Raised average scores on a fractions unit assessment from 68% to 82% through hands-on manipulatives and exit tickets.
- Run a guided reading group of six students and track fluency growth on weekly running records.
- Created a behavior chart and tiered classroom routines that reduced transition time by about two minutes.
- Co-designed a reading corner and book display for the third grade class and logged more than 300 titles checked out by students.
- Communicate weekly with families through the class newsletter and parent app.

Practicum Student, Grade 1 Jan 2026 - May 2026
East Lansing Public Schools, East Lansing, MI

- Observed and co-taught in a first grade classroom 12 hours a week, and delivered eight small-group lessons on phonics.
- Supported four students reading below benchmark with daily practice routines and sent weekly progress notes to the teacher.
- Built a set of phonics games and center activities that the classroom teacher kept using after the practicum ended.

Reading Tutor Jun 2024 - Jul 2026
Sylvan Learning, Lansing, MI

- Tutored 12 students in grades 2 through 5 each week in reading comprehension and written responses.
- Helped most tutored students raise their reading level by about half a grade in six months, as measured by program diagnostics.
- Reported progress to parents monthly and adjusted lesson plans after each assessment.

Camp Counselor Jun 2023 - Aug 2023
YMCA Day Camp, Okemos, MI

- Led a group of 14 children ages 6 to 8 in daily activities, games, and crafts across a nine-week summer session.
- Managed safety, attendance, and daily check-in for the group with another counselor.

CORE SKILLS

Lesson planning | Reading instruction | Math instruction with manipulatives | Small-group guided reading | Formative assessment | Classroom management | Differentiation | Family communication | Michigan standards alignment | Google Classroom | Running records | Behavior routines

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education (expected May 2027), Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

CERTIFICATIONS

Michigan Test for Teacher Certification, Elementary Education (Passed) | CPR and First Aid | Michigan Criminal Background Check, Cleared