

Curriculum Vitae

Donald Pata

1323 Kensington
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
313.433.6772

don.pata@gpschools.org
<http://bit.ly/mrpata>
@mr_pata

Teaching Experience

High School Physics Teacher

Grosse Pointe North High School
Teaching 3 levels of physics – Calculus, Trigonometry and Algebra

September 1999 – Present
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI

Lead Workshop Facilitator

State of Michigan Math and Science Centers MSP Grant
Trained teachers in the use of the Modeling Method for teaching high school physics

Summers 2010 -2016
Royal Oak and Muskegon MI

Professional Development Leader

Routinely conducted professional development in physics and physical science all over the state and the metro Detroit area

August 2008 – 2016

Presenter

Led workshops at national, state and local conferences for Arbor Scientific (a science supply company) highlighting their products and using them with pedagogically appropriate methods

2009 – 2016

Trainer for Teachers

Science of Cell Phones and Wireless Communications
Taught 2 day workshops to local science teachers in using the “Cell Phone” curriculum

Summers 2005 – 20012
Metropolitan Detroit, MI

Science and Mathematics Teacher

United States Peace Corps
Taught Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics in a rural village in West Africa

1996 – 1997
Ghana, Africa

Leadership Experience

Chairperson Science Department (11 teachers)

Plan and implement PD for the department as well as provide pedagogical support

2011-Present

Co-Chairperson District K-12 Science Review Committee

Organize and carry out NGSS adoption throughout the district

2015-Present

Lead Workshop Facilitator – Modeling Workshop Group

Lead 15 day (105 hour) workshops for Michigan science teachers

2010-Present

Michigan Section AAPT Treasurer and Executive Board Member

Help plan and execute 2 meetings per year as well as keep the funds for the organization

2010-Present

Co-Coordinator for Facilitator Development – Modeling Workshop Group

Help plan and execute all Michigan Modeling facilitator training

2010-Present

Education

Master of Arts in Teaching

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
May 2003

Post Graduate Teaching Certificate (Michigan DC and DE)

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
May 1999

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
May 1996

Arizona State University – Tempe, AZ

I spent three summers in Tempe taking graduate courses in advanced courses in pedagogy and physics content related to the Modeling Method for teaching high school physics.

Attended: Summers 2002 – 2005

Education

University of Michigan – Dearborn, MI	Attended: Summer 2000
I spent 4 weeks learning the Modeling Method for teaching high school physics. The Modeling Method is an NSF funded teaching program that teaches teachers to use an effective inquiry-based method to teach high school physics. The Modeling Method has been shown to be the most effective teaching methodology currently in place in today's high schools.	
AP Physics Institute – University of Georgia Athens, GA	Attended: Summer 2002
I spent one week at an AP Physics institute preparing to teach the C level in the fall of that year.	
Project PHYSLab – Portland, OR	Attended: Summer 2001
I spent 4 weeks in Portland learning how to integrate current new technology with strong pedagogy. Project PHYSLab was a long running NSF funded program.	

Honors & Awards

AAPT Physics Master Leadership Taskforce	2016-Present
One of 17 teachers selected to report on teacher leadership across the country.	
National Math and Science Partnership Grant	2014-Present
Lead facilitator and grant editor on \$2.8 million competitive award from the state of Michigan	
PAEMST - Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching	2011
Awarded in 2012	
Metro Detroit Science Teachers Association:	2005
High School Teacher of the Year	
Michigan Science Teachers Association:	2001
Teacher of Promise	

Professional Responsibilities

FIRST Robotics Sponsor Team 1189	2010-2015
Science Department Chairperson	2011-Present
PAEMST Reviewer State of Michigan	2013-2015

Publications

Davids, M., Forrest, R., & Pata, D. (2010). Teaching the fundamentals of cell phones and wireless communications. *The Physics Teacher*, 48 (4), 217-221

Davids, M., Forrest, R., & Pata, D. (2003). *Science of Cell Phones and Wireless Communication*.

This is a three week curricular unit that teaches students the science of wireless communication. It was researched and written in collaboration with a grant from the NEA with support from the Convergence Educational Foundation which is now called *Square One Educational Network*.

Pata, D. (2002). *Grade 11 and 12 Physics Students' Post-Instructional Conceptions of Force and Motion*.

This is my unpublished masters thesis.

Pata, D. (2001). Mini-Labs for Emphasis of Relationships Between Variables. *MSTA Journal*, 46 (2), 36-36

Presentations

AAPT National Conference 2009 Ann Arbor, MI *Discrepant Events for the Physics Classroom*

AAPT National Conference 2006 Syracuse, NY *The Science of Cell Phones and Wireless Communication*

AAPT National Conference 2005 Salt Lake City, UT *The Science of Cell Phones and Wireless Communication*

NSTA National Conference 2006 Anaheim, CA *The Science of Cell Phones and Wireless Communication*

NSTA Regional Conference 2007 Detroit, MI *Make and Take for New Teachers*

MSTA State Conference 2001 – 2016 MI

MDSTA Local Conference 2001 – 2016 Metropolitan Detroit Area, MI

DMAPT Local Meetings 2001 – 2016 Metropolitan Detroit Area, MI

Professional Organizations

AAPT (American Association of Physics Teachers)

NSTA (National Science Teachers Association)

MSTA (Michigan Science Teachers Association)

AMTA (American Modeling Teachers Association)

MI-AAPT (Michigan Section of the AAPT: Current Treasurer)

MDSTA (Metro Detroit Science Teachers Association)

DMAPT (Detroit Metropolitan Area Physics Teachers: Past President)

MEA (Michigan Educational Association)