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Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to apply for the position of high school mathematics teacher in your district. I will be getting my single-subject secondary credential from UC Davis this June. My desire to teach can be attributed to my feelings about mathematics as a global and intergenerational community: by studying mathematics, we connect, in a way, to all past, present, and future mathematicians. As a mathematician, I feel it is my duty to pass on my knowledge to the next generation.

Although I am new to the profession of teaching, I feel I am very qualified to teach mathematics. I have a strong practical and theoretical background in many mathematical topics, and enough mastery of the basic material to explain it in a variety of ways that students can understand. I believe that in order to truly learn a complicated subject, a student must develop an interest in it. I try to encourage such an attitude in my students by clearly expressing my own passion and enthusiasm for mathematics, by emphasizing its wonder and mystery, and by demonstrating real-world applications that may apply to their everyday lives or future careers.

Teaching elementary school math lessons has shown me where my high school students are coming from, and leading college math discussion sessions tells me where they are headed. My experiences with students of both low and high mathematical ability allow me to understand, anticipate, and correct many common mistakes and misconceptions that may cause trouble later on. Teaching in several different classroom settings has also granted me flexibility: I am equally comfortable giving traditional lectures, guiding progressive CPM-style group learning activities, or combining the two to facilitate both accurate understanding of the fundamentals and self-discovery of applications. I am highly skilled with use of technology in an educational setting, and my research with the graphing calculator as a teaching and learning tool has granted me insight into both its strengths and its limitations.

My contact information can be found at the head of this letter. Attached you will find my resume, transcript, and letters of recommendation. Please contact me if you would like to know more or set up an interview.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Casey Davis