# Kristen Ball

<https://www.kristenball.com/>

## EDUCATION

## Columbia University, Teachers College

Masters of Arts, Politics and Education; Education Policy Concentration

Organization and Leadership: Education Leadership, completed 30 credits

**Boston College, College of Arts and Sciences**

Bachelor of Arts, French; Business Concentration

AWARD-WINNING PUBLISHED AUTHOR

***A Calf Named Brian Higgins: An Adventure in Rural Kenya***

Published by Red Chair Press

* Nautilus Book Award: Gold Level, middle grade fiction
* Literary Titan Book Awards: Literary Titan Gold Award
* Northern Lights Book Award: Gold Level, pre-teen cultural category
* Moonbeam Children’s Book Award: Bronze Level, pre-teen fiction
* Book Excellence Award: Global Celebration of Literary Excellence

WORK EXPERIENCE

**On the Ball Tutoring LLC – Darien, CT**

**Founder & CEO**

November 1, 2021 – present

*On the Ball Tutoring LLC provides individualized one-on-one academic tutoring and executive functioning skills and strategies with a focus on building strong and trusting relationships with students and holding them to the high expectations they deserve in a caring and positive way, recognizing social and emotional learning as an integral part of a student’s skills set.*

* Created On the Ball Tutoring LLC to meet the growing needs of students and their families
* Execute mission statement (above) with elementary, middle, and high school students
* Foster a collaborative approach to student learning; communicate with families and schools
* Work closely with local school districts to provide individualized short term homebound instruction to students
* Manage all administrative aspects of the business

**Sacred Heart University – Fairfield, CT**

**Adjunct Professor**

August 2023 – present

* Teach First Year Writing Seminar to two sections of the freshman class
* Design and implement content, instruction, and coursework around Sacred Heart University’s mission of social justice and sustainable development

**Sasco River Center (merger between The Southfield Center and Sensory Kids) – Darien, CT**

**Learning Specialist**

September 2017 – June 2022

* Provided executive functioning skills and strategies for students of all ages – including planning, organizing, and prioritizing workload; breaking down assignments and making a plan; individualizing studying and test-taking strategies; using outlines and graphic organizers to articulate and expand on ideas in written work; setting goals; establishing and sticking to routines and schedules; encouraging meeting with teachers
* Provided academic tutoring for students of all ages – including providing feedback on written work; talking through books and texts; using context, evidence, and analysis to strengthen written work; working together to complete study guides; contextualizing books and lessons; answering questions while encouraging meeting with teachers

**New Canaan Country School – New Canaan, CT**

**Fifth Grade Teacher**

July 2007 – June 2016

* Combined teaching traditional curriculum with creating new units of study and opportunities for global studies, including a School-to-School program with students and teachers in Mbola, Tanzania
* Built classroom community through service-learning activities, including student-driven 5B Cares year-long project and partnership with a local Head Start program
* Mentored an apprentice teacher each year, providing skills in classroom management, curriculum planning, report writing, and parent communication
* Coached cross country to middle school students

**The School at Columbia University – New York, NY**

**Director, Admissions & Outreach and Fourth Grade Teacher**

#### July 2004 – July 2007

* Worked closely with the Office of the Provost; created and implemented all outreach efforts to the neighborhood to ensure consistent admissions policies for University affiliates and community families
* Supervised and managed admissions visits by families and produced all print materials, web site announcements, and interim and year-end reports on the admissions process
* Worked with grade level team and child study specialists to design and implement an integrated curriculum to a diverse community of fourth grade students
* Co-created and coached a running club to children ages 6 – 12 and partnered with the New York Road Runners Foundation in road races and track and field meets

**Bar Sauri, Bar Turro, & Nyamninia Schools – Sauri, Kenya**

**Volunteer Teacher**

On behalf of The School at Columbia University and the United Nations Millennium Villages Project, created a structure for ongoing communication between schools in Sauri, Kenya and The School at Columbia University to serve as a model for all Millennium Villages Project sites

Higher Education

**Mercy College – Bronx, NY**

**Adjunct Professor**

Taught *Education Policy, Addressing Decisions that Impact the Classroom* and *Re-Imagining Schools: Philosophies of Education* to NYC Teaching Fellows

Non-Profit

**TC Innovations, Teachers College, Columbia University – New York, NY**

*Assistant Director*

Identified business and non-profit partners, developed and customized proposals to maximize grants and foundations awards, and managed budget and administration

Education Policy

# McGraw-Hill Education, Public and Government Affairs – New York, NY

### *Educational Policy Consultant*

Researched and reported on trends in curriculum and funding at the federal, state, and local levels to provide relevant information to business units of McGraw-Hill Companies

## Education Publishing

**TIME For Kids, a division of AOL Time Warner — New York, NY**

*Online Marketing Manager*

Integrated online print and licensing sales, and developed and executed programs for marketing timeforkids.com subscriptions

*Key Accounts Manager*

Expanded TIME For Kids' presence in schools by creating and implementing targeted sales and marketing strategies print and online, and managing conventions and advisory boards

**Prentice Hall School Division — Upper Saddle River, NJ**

*Marketing Manager, Language Arts*

Developed and executed marketing plans and collateral to maximize revenue

## Macmillan/McGraw-Hill School Division — New York, NY

*Marketing Coordinator, Mathematics*

Coordinated from inception to completion the cost-effective production of sales support materials

CERTIFICATES, CONFERENCES, and COURSEWORK

**Connecticut** and **New York State Teaching Certifications**

**Be Shri Yoga** RYS 200-hour teaching certification

**Where There Be Dragons** Educator Programs, Nepal and Cambodia

**Age of Sustainable Development** course passed with distinction

**CAIS** speaker and presenter

**ISEEN** member and conference attendee

**Project Adventure** certified