

There are many reasons why I chose Tooele to begin my teaching career. There are many other reasons why I plan to stay.

I am from Grand Rapids, Michigan. I lived there for twenty-nine years and all my family and friends are still there. There was a powerful persuasion though which made my decision to move across the county very easy. Michigan's job market in the education field is nonexistent. Thousands of future teachers graduate Michigan's colleges each year and have no where to go but into substitute teaching. I have discovered that it is much different here in Utah. Not only public schools but nearly every small and large business has help wanted signs. It is very easy to find work here, not only for you as a teacher but for a spouse as well. I began a part time job at night coaching gymnastics at a nearby gym within the first two days that I lived here.

Secondly, I feel that the starting pay for a teacher here is not too much lower than that of Michigan. Also, the cost of living is very comparable if not a little less here.

Tooele has every essential for a single or married person to get by.

Remember though, that downtown Salt Lake City is only a 35 minute drive away, which is where I live. There is plenty of entertainment and recreational activities there. Also, only 30 minutes East of Salt Lake City is Park City, where you can visit the Olympic Museum, go walk Main Street and visit the art galleries, or spend a day at one of the many ski resorts.

I plan to stay because of the strong and friendly relationships I have made with some of my colleagues. Every time I walk out of my classroom my view is obstructed by beautiful snow capped mountains. It is also convenient that I am one of three Michigan teachers at my school alone and we have all become friends. Finally, I think that the atmosphere here goes great with my personality.

I feel that Tooele County School District is a great place to work and I have no regrets moving here.

Sincerely,

Andrew Garbowitz  
3rd Grade Teacher  
West Elementary School