



Bath Elementary School

"Where Children Count"

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December 9, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Mary Harwood who has worked in my second grade classroom as a student teacher since the beginning of the school year. Mary has been a welcome addition to our school community. During her time as a student teacher, Mary has made a positive impact on the students in our class both academically and through positive relationships built with each student. Mary is kind hearted and compassionate, and with the understanding of the importance of building relationships and trust with the students, has built positive relationships and fostered trust with the students in our class while gaining their respect. Mary is consistently hardworking and professional.

Mary has consistently designed lessons to best meet the needs of the students in our class. She has been mindful of the students' current levels of understanding and taken information gained through instruction, guided and independent practice, and assessment to alter and differentiate her instruction to ensure high levels of success and understanding from all students. Mary has also planned in accordance with the district curricular framework and Common Core State Standards to ensure her lessons align with second grade curriculum. Mary has worked closely with the instructional staff at our school to plan lessons. She has worked through common planning time with the team of second grade teachers, and in collaboration with the intervention teachers and special education teachers to ensure the needs of all students are being met.

As part of her service learning project, Mary planned for and ran a book drive for the second graders in our school. A new library center recently opened in Bath, and had expressed a need for donations of new or gently used children's books. Through her leadership and organization the second graders collected and donated over 700 books to our library center. Mary continuously connected the book drive and donations to our studies of the local community in our social studies curriculum as well as place value and addition in math. The students played an active role and were actively involved in the project in helping to keep a running total of the number of books donated throughout the book drive.

Mary has demonstrated that she is well prepared to become an excellent educator, and would be a valuable asset to any school district. I would highly recommend Mary for an elementary teaching position and she will be greatly missed in our second grade class.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at home at 616.340.8111 or at Bath Elementary School at 517.641.6771.

Sincerely Yours in Education,

Sarah Dame

Sarah Dame
2nd Grade Teacher
Bath Elementary School