

May 6, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

I recommend Sarah Gerding for an elementary education teaching position. I had the pleasure of working with Mrs. Gerding as a collaborative colleague during her year-long student teaching and as a partner while she was my long-term guest teacher when I was on leave. Mrs. Gerding exhibits excellent teacher qualities. She is organized, efficient, approachable and a problem solver. Her classroom environment is friendly and productive.

During the 2013-2014 school year, Mrs. Gerding was a student teacher in our grade level. She attended every weekly grade level planning meeting, as well as every bi-weekly school wide staff meeting. Mrs. Gerding was a collaborative member of our team. Her ability to look at the big ideas in a subject area and create differentiated learning experiences for all of our students was greatly appreciated. She was always at work early and would stay late to assure that her lesson plans were prepared. Not only was she an active member of our grade level team, but she would always volunteer for after school activities and became an active member of school committees.

This past school year, Mrs. Gerding had the opportunity to start off the first twelve weeks of school in my classroom. She approached each task and responsibility that accompanies the beginning of the school year with determination. Mrs. Gerding facilitated Curriculum Night with the parents, established the classroom norms, assessed students in all academic areas, created a culture of thinking, organized the fall field trip and conducted parent/teacher conferences. Her ability to effectively manage a classroom and provide students with best practice learning opportunities allowed for a smooth transition back into the classroom.

It is my hope that Sarah Gerding is able to establish a classroom of her own. The students, families and colleagues that have the opportunity to work with Mrs. Gerding will benefit greatly.

Sincerely,

*Autumn Winairski*

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