



BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WEST CENTER

"to enable all students to succeed in a changing world"

May 1, 2012

To: Prospective Educational Employers

As the mentoring teacher for Samantha Jroski for the 2012 Spring Semester at Boyertown Area Junior High West, I highly recommend Samantha as a well-qualified, highly motivated, flexible, dependable, and dedicated secondary English educator, who would be a valuable addition to any faculty. During the time that she taught at Boyertown Area Junior High West, Samantha taught *Seventh Grade Reading* which is an introductory course to literary analysis in all genres with an intense study of vocabulary and the continued application of reading strategies. Also, Samantha taught *Public Speaking* for eighth and ninth grade students. With *Public Speaking*, Samantha worked and guided students through the persuasive speech process which includes idea generation, researching, composing, and delivery. Besides teaching numerous challenging courses, Samantha also was responsible for teaching duties such as cafeteria duty, tutoring, maintaining the school's on-line grade book and parent contact program, and working with an interdisciplinary team of seventh grade teachers.

With the variety of students in these classes, Samantha developed well-designed lessons that included essential questions for instruction, enduring understandings, and differentiated instruction which were incorporated into high-level activities that made students responsible and accountable for their learning and their work. Samantha's high expectations and standards for students were evident in the all activities and assessments that she developed for them. All the activities and assessments took into account learner diversity while maintaining the challenge needed for the courses' requirements. Furthermore, Samantha's planning and organization assisted with her successful execution of her lessons. Samantha's successful lessons were also due to her classroom management strategies. Not intimidating yet commanding attention, Samantha conducted organized and well-paced classes where she constantly moved around the room not only to monitor student progress and to lend assistance but also to keep students focused and behaved. Students, in return, gave to her the full respect of a classroom teacher when working with her. Another important factor of Samantha's success in the classroom is the way she is concerned and dedicated to her students. Samantha continuously demonstrates that she wants her students to succeed by offering students help during the school day and by conferencing with students about their performances. In addition to all that she does in the classroom and for all of her students, Samantha's continuous self-reflection of her own teaching performance enables her to meet all her classes' needs and also to develop into an effective and high performing teacher.

Samantha Jroski is a motivated, reliable, confident, organized, adaptable, and flexible individual who works well with colleagues and students. Her professionalism and her dedication to teaching are very admirable. Since Samantha has started working with me, I consider her a key element to the success of my *Seventh Grade Reading* and *Public Speaking* classes. She will be a great asset to any school. I highly recommend Samantha for any secondary English teaching position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kimberly A. Willing".

Kimberly A. Willing
Boyertown Junior High West
Seventh Grade Reading