

Departments of:

Counseling and Development
Elementary Education/Early Childhood
Physical and Health Education
Secondary Education/Foundations of Education
Special Education

December 10, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation for Jessica Hynek who was a student in my literacy methods course in the fall of 2013. This course fosters deep understanding and implementation of research and evidence based approaches for teaching reading and writing. Emphasis on Common Core Standards guides every task.

The majority of the projects in this course require personal commitment and self-motivation, qualities that are essential to a professional. Key projects in this course engaged Jessica with the writing process and developing tasks for deep vocabulary learning. On each and every project Jessica demonstrated her dedication to creative thinking and quality work. Jessica's interactions with her peers in Literature Circles, group discussions, and daily collaborations revealed her interpersonal strengths. Most importantly, Jessica demonstrated her commitment to classroom application of the literacy strategies as she successfully completed the field component associated with the course.

Furthermore, I was fortunate to have Jessica in my Curriculum Integration class in the spring of 2014. One major requirement of this course requires twice-weekly participation in the Slippery Rock Area after-school tutoring program. For approximately twelve weeks, Jessica mentored learners twice a week on homework and areas of need. During this experience Jessica identified the learners' strengths and needs, and intervened with engaging motivating learning tasks. Motivating learners after a full day of school was critical, yet Jessica created engaging activities. I observed Jessica successfully collaborate with the school personnel, communicate with families, and make a positive impact on the progress of learners.

Jessica has such an exuberant and optimistic outlook on teaching and life in general. She never fails to inspire her learners with her own excitement for learning. As a teacher she will make any challenge or problem into a positive experience. Those kinds of traits are essential for classrooms. Jessica's work in class and with students always exceeds my expectations. Her optimism, flexibility, and maturity make her well-suited to the field of education. I recommend you consider Jessica Hynek for any position to which she applies.

Sincerely,



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