

May 20, 2019

To Whom it May Concern,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to highly recommend Jessica Benson for a position at your school. Jessica and I have worked as colleagues at American International School of Utah throughout the 2018-19 school year. I have closely observed her interactions with her students and her other colleagues. She is by far the hardest worker I have encountered in the education field. She is a skilled educator with a heart of gold.

The words that most accurately describe Jessica are passionate, devoted, enthusiastic, creative, driven, and deeply kind. At the beginning of the school year Jessica took the reins of her Montessori classroom under less-than ideal circumstances. She was abruptly thrust from the position of teaching assistant to classroom teacher when the teacher assigned to the class resigned. The class was floundering, but Jessica jumped into the task feet first and never looked back. Jessica's highest priority from the beginning, has been to provide her students with stability and high expectations. Her students have thrived under her direction. Their progress has been substantial, demonstrated by improved assessment scores. Beyond academics, they have also experienced significant improvement in their behaviors thanks to Jessica's patience and wonderful classroom structures.

Jessica is a problem solver. She is not afraid to think outside the box when looking for solutions to problems. When it comes to her students, the sky's the limit. She sees the potential of each student and gently pushes them to reach it. Her ambitious projects in the first, second, and third grade mixed-age classroom have sparked her students' imaginations and showed her peers what is really possible when kids are given challenges. Her students have built everything from catapults to computers. They've thoroughly explored exotic locations. They've successfully held an impressive science fair that would rival any Middle school. They've been introduced to coding and digital citizenship in a way that will give them an edge over their peers. Jessica is a collaborator. She is quick to praise others and to promote their good ideas. She encourages success in others. She doesn't compete, but rather cooperates with others for the good of the team. She is a truly kind and trustworthy person. She leads by example and puts great effort into supporting her teammates.

I have been honored to work with Jessica this year and would jump at the opportunity to work with her in the future. Any child would be fortunate to have her as a teacher, and any educator would be fortunate to have her as a peer. Please feel free to reach out to me for additional details, should you feel them helpful.

Wishing you well,
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