



April 6, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

Student-focused. Intrinsically motivated. Strong Work Ethic.

These are descriptors for Ms. Katherine Penrose whom I highly recommend as a middle level Mathematics teacher (grades 4-8). I have had the pleasure of working with Katherine in multiple capacities since her sophomore year at Bloomsburg University: first, through her completion in one of my upper level methodology courses; second, through her active participation in Bloomsburg University's chapter of the Association of Middle Level Education (BU-AMLE) of which she served as both Treasurer and President.

Katherine completed an upper-level methodology course that I teach for pre-service undergraduates in our middle level program. Without a doubt, Katherine stood out among her peers. She has been trained in the *Reading Apprenticeship* framework and strategies. From think alouds, Frayer diagrams, and anticipatory guides to determining importance t-charts and graphic organizers, Katherine delivered highly effective 20-minute mini lessons. Her assignments and teaching demonstrations consistently served as exemplars for the class.

Not only can I attest to Katherine's content area knowledge and commitment to delivering effective pedagogy, I can also attest to Katherine's commitment to service to the profession. During her sophomore year, I noticed she was an intelligent natural leader with a solid work ethic and strong people skills. As such, her peers elected her as Treasurer to BU-AMLE of which I am the advisor. She then became Co-President with another student and just a semester later took on the roll full-time. She worked hard to build our membership from 10 to upwards of 40 *active* members and create interactive fundraisers to increase the funds our organization uses to hold student-centered events.

It was Katherine's drive to work with middle schoolers that fueled multiple outreach events in local area schools. To name a couple of the events she coordinated and led with relatively little guidance from me: (1) She took the lead in coordinating and facilitating two STEAM community nights: *Fall into Science* and *For the Love of Science*, wherein over 100 upper elementary and middle school students along with their parents participated in STEAM based experiments, demonstrations, and activities with a Halloween theme and (2) "For the Love of Science" Expo to play off the Valentine holiday. In both events, Katherine coordinated the BU-AMLE members to have STEAM stations for the students and parents to participate. Katherine willingly embraces every opportunity to further her involvement with middle school students and her enthusiasm for doing so is contagious among her peers, the area school liaisons, and BU faculty.



Department of Teaching and Learning



Everything Katherine presents is her best work; coupled with her willingness to learn and modify her craft, I have no doubt she will continue to succeed in her future career. In my professional opinion, Katherine is an exemplar student of the College of Education at Bloomsburg University.

Sincerely,

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