



May 2010

14913 Potomac Drive
Sterling Heights, MI 48313

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter attesting to the excellent teaching skills of Miss Lauren Cleve. Miss Cleve completed her student teaching in my first grade general education classroom at Magahay Elementary during the 2009-2010 school year.

While a student teacher in my room Miss Cleve proved herself to be not only dedicated to the profession of teaching, but also dedicated to the achievement of each individual student. She understood the different modalities that reach a variety of learners and took care to include multiple modes of instruction in her lessons. Miss Cleve clearly understood defining her objectives and creating lessons to help each child be successful in reaching that goal. She was efficient in garnering materials to actively engage each learner from a variety of resources. Miss Cleve was attentive to create lessons and deliver instruction that delivered results for all learners her class.

Miss Cleve possesses a variety of character traits that suit her well in her pursuit becoming a teacher. Miss Cleve has the useful ability to "think on her feet". This flexibility comes in very useful when teaching. Miss Cleve rolled with the ever changing demands of a first grade classroom with the poise and skill of an experienced teacher. I attribute much of this to her organization and being prepared. Her well thought out lesson plans served as a reliable action plan, yet she was able to deviate from what she planned to do when the situation called for it. I think this shows how natural teaching comes to her. She never seemed flustered when we needed to adjust to serve the children with what was best at the moment. Her self confidence was intact even under pressure.

One of the high expectations I noticed that Miss Cleve held herself to was to connect with children. She developed meaningful relationships with the students as she taught them. She also was successful in scaffolding the children to connect with what they were learning. The abundant amount of energy Miss Cleve has came in handy when she was endeavoring to ensure that the children felt connected to her and empowered and connected to their own learning.

In the area of classroom management Miss Cleve also excelled. She managed her time wisely and adjusted her lessons to be able to grasp on to those teachable moments when they occurred. She was attentive to creating a classroom environment that helped to promote time on task learning and minimize behavior problems. Her use of humor was enjoyed by the children. It helped them discover appropriate ways to behave while keeping their dignity intact.

Perhaps one of the characteristics I enjoyed most about Miss Cleve was her passion. Her passion for consuming and sharing knowledge created an enthusiasm in the classroom that lead to learning. Her passion for life created a joyful environment that was fun to be in and learn in. Her passion for people helped her to have the stamina to reach students and create real relationships.

As you can deduce Miss Cleve is the kind of teacher that in needed to inspire learning. She would be a high quality addition to any staff. She will bless many of her students in the years to come!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrea K. Finkel". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Andrea K. Finkel