



**Grand Rapids Public Schools**  
**Buchanan Elementary School**

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Monday, May 15, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

It's my honor and pleasure to provide this letter of recommendation for Ms. Sarah Hundt as she pursues an elementary teaching position. As the assistant principal of Buchanan Elementary School, I've enjoyed having Ms. Hundt as part of our teaching community for grades 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. We'll all miss her and her contributions to our school community yet I trust and understand her rationale for educational relocation. I wholeheartedly endorse her candidacy as she seeks a position elsewhere. It's my wish that she finds a school with the resources to support her passion for teaching and touching the lives and mindsets of young learners.

I would highly recommend Ms. Sarah Hundt to any professional learning community. She has been a vital asset to our Buchanan Elementary family as she chose our school, students, families, community, and demographics to begin her instructional journey as an elementary school teacher. Sarah started her teaching career with us fresh out of Michigan State University, two years ago. She brought with her a solid training in pedagogical methods, knowledge of resources, and a great foundation to grow upon instructionally along with great energy and enthusiasm. She introduced several new projects, processes, and integrated technology into her Daily 5 lessons to organize learning and engage students. She challenges students thinking and elicits their feedback in order to press their learning and increase rigor. Ms. Hundt brings exciting new ideas to life and consistently pursues the latest research; I'm confident that she will continue her momentum with her next school.

Sarah also impressed me with her commitment to lifelong learning and equity that is built upon high expectations for learning. She successfully collaborated with her mentor, took advantage of several professional development opportunities offered in the district, and she is an active member of her grade level professional learning (PLC) and professional development (PD) team. Ms. Hundt has also found the time three days a week to provide her services to the after-school program to offer teacher support and feedback to students for an hour, making sure that students still have access to a certified educator for academic assistance. It's this commitment to growth and her students' well-being that makes Sarah an incomparable educator who empowers her pupils.

During that time, I have gotten to know Ms. Hundt quite well and can thoroughly vouch for her character and abilities. I have observed her professional practices grow and evolve over the past two years as she has targeted her lessons and activities to meet the dynamic and diverse needs of our learners. She has had to have the agility to change, differentiate, and transform her mindset in order to customize varying learning styles in different learning formats which are scaffold into teacher guided whole group to small group/interventions, partnerships, and gradually released into independent practice.

Ms. Hundt will also stand out among her colleagues due to her dignity and equity when addressing student concerns and educational issues that affect our learning community as a whole. She is always willing to go that extra mile and a half in order to be prepared for teaching and learning, which is not limited to her students and parents but to all her fellow teachers. It is because she is able to communicate effectively with everyone she encounters and actively listen. With her relentless motivation and her knowledge of common core, classroom management, professionalism, and technology, Ms. Hundt would bring a wealth of knowledge and skills to any school district. I know she would be an excellent fit for your school system.

I stand steadfast behind this statement: Any learning community or school that recruits Ms. Hundt will gain a jewel who possess many qualities such as an abundance of knowledge and pedagogy, intrinsic eagerness to grow professionally in her craft and science of education, and the confidence to take strategic chances in order to meet the needs of the 21st century learner as she prepare them to be career and college ready and competitive even in elementary. This is the Michigan State University Methodology and the Grand Rapids Public School Way.

She has shown excellent classroom management skills and developed a rapport with students, colleagues, and parents that is characterized by mutual respect and effective means of communication. I look forward to learning more about the accomplishments that lie in her professional future.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me for any further information. Thank you for your time.

Educationally Yours,

Ms. April Chambliss

Assistant Principal

Buchanan Elementary

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