

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Reference Letter for Sarah Hundt

April 2015

It has been a pleasure to supervise the yearlong internship of Sarah Hundt at Sycamore Elementary in Holt, Michigan. During her internship, Sarah worked with her mentor in a 2nd grade classroom and was fully involved in planning for and teaching all academic subjects. Sarah was a highly motivated, dedicated, and hard-working intern, and she is highly recommended for a teaching position in your district.

As a result of my observations and interactions with Sarah this year, I can easily see her as an effective teacher at any elementary position. It was evident during the early part of Sarah's internship that she enjoyed getting to know her students, and she jumped right in to begin helping them learn.

One of Ms. Hundt's strengths is that she is artistic in many ways, especially music and photography. These talents became an integral part of her teaching style, and she enjoyed using graphics and photos in ways that greatly enhanced her lessons. During her social studies unit, for example, she used her own photographs to help her students learn. The unit was about comparing another community (San Francisco) to their own community. Sarah knew that being able to see realistic and recent photos of a community about which they had little experience would allow her 2nd graders to connect to the information better. She also used photographs of her students' community of Holt to take the students back in time (1911) and through the ages, looking at then and now. Photography is something that Sarah hopes to incorporate in all academic areas.

Sarah consistently demonstrated excellent judgment as she made decisions and helped her 2nd graders make positive behavior choices, using the systems in place in the classroom and school. One particular goal was to help her students become better listeners by teaching them active listening skills.

Sarah is a creative, hardworking, respectful, caring, responsive, and flexible teacher who has learned to effectively use different engagement strategies. She enjoys using creative language and her sense of humor to connect with her children. Her positive collaboration with her mentor and team teacher demonstrated professionalism and mutual support.

Before retiring, I served as a principal in two Michigan public school districts. Ms. Hundt is the kind of teacher any principal would love to have on staff. She has all of the attributes of a professional educator: commitment to students, knowledge gained through completion of a strong teacher preparation program, and desire to keep learning. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to hear more about this enthusiastic and creative teacher candidate.

Patricia Ryan

Field Instructor, Michigan State University

pryan@msu.edu

home: 517.641.4742

cell: 517.881.9644



College of Education

Teacher Education

Michigan State
University
620 Farm Lane,
313 Erickson Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824

517-353-5091
Fax: 517-432-5092
education.msu.edu