

May 11, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that we write this recommendation in support of Abigail Nochimson's consideration for an elementary teaching position. Abigail just completed a successful student teaching semester as the culminating experience of her work with the Muhlenberg College Education Program. Her first placement was in an urban first-grade classroom at Asa Packer Elementary School in the Bethlehem (PA) Area School District. Her second assignment was in a suburban fourth-grade classroom at Ironton Elementary School in the Parkland (PA) School District. In both settings Abigail taught the full range of subjects in addition to assuming responsibility for routine procedures at the beginning and end of the school day.

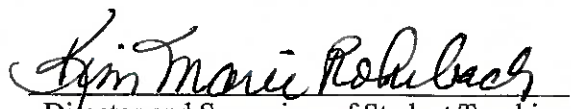
Abigail's written lesson plans included objectives that were relevant to the PA Core Academic Standards, to the district curricula, and to the academic level of her students. She was consistently well organized and thoroughly planned for each lesson. She had a solid understanding of content and used a variety of instructional strategies such as whole class instruction/modeling, small groups, games, hands-on investigations, computer assisted instruction, independent projects, and guided discussion. Her learning activities included district-provided materials, graphic organizers, a variety of age-appropriate books, materials for hands-on explorations, and counting cubes/chips. Abigail became proficient at using the technology available in both placements for demonstration, student research, leading instruction, interactive games, and classroom management.

Abigail had clear expectations for student behavior and academic achievement and she communicated her expectations well. She was aware of the range of abilities and personalities within each class and gave everyone the opportunity to participate, providing needed support or enrichment to enable students to be successful and appropriately challenged. Her support of and respect for all students established a warm and caring environment in the classroom. Abigail was observant of student activity, proactive in addressing off task behavior, and consistent in enforcing expected standards of conduct.

Abigail communicated the content clearly, both orally and in writing. She used an appropriate combination of direct instruction/modeling, guided practice, and independent work. Her enthusiasm for learning and working with her students was evident during each placement. Her lessons were planned to engage and motivate her students and their active participation indicated her success in this area. Abigail was consistently willing and eager to try new ideas and was able to accurately evaluate their effectiveness. She continued to improve in her use of formative assessments throughout her lessons and had the ability to adapt her instruction during a lesson to meet the unanticipated needs of the students.

Abigail demonstrated high professional standards and attitudes in the classroom and beyond. She developed professional relationships with the teachers and staff of both schools and interacted positively with parents when she had the opportunity to do so. She consistently sought to improve her performance. Her dedication to teaching and her excellent work ethic will make her an asset to any school faculty. Abigail has successfully met all criteria for certification and has earned our sincere recommendation for a teaching position in elementary education.


Supervisor of Student Teaching


Director and Supervisor of Student Teaching