



*Mossbank School*

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Jan. 19, 2015

**RE: Letter of Reference for Kourtney Gorham**

To Whom it May Concern:

Please accept this as a letter of reference for Kourtney Gorham who interned in Mossbank School in the fall of 2014. I served as one of her supervising teachers and her principal while she was at our school. She was in my Grade 11/12 ELA classroom as part of her placement.

In terms of her personal traits, Kourtney is an extremely hard worker. She has a fantastic work ethic and organizational skills, always being prepared to deliver her lessons. She often went above and beyond to help students, for example, creating a "Scholarship Package" for the grade 12 students to assist them in finding funding. She is very personable and got along well with all of the staff. She had great rapport with students of all ages, as she was able to be in classrooms ranging from grades 1-12. She especially had great connections with higher need students. She is a person who genuinely cares about the students and puts their needs first.

As a professional, Kourtney had a solid knowledge of what it takes to be an exemplary teacher. She was always extremely efficient and well planned, taking into consideration curricular demands, differentiated instruction needs, varying instructional strategies, and solid assessment and evaluation practices. She especially had a wide knowledge about FNM issues and history, confidently incorporating it into her lessons and units in an engaging way. She communicated and related well to students both in and out of the classroom and had very few classroom management issues-- anything that came up, she dealt with in a mature, calm and effective way.

Kourtney also was involved in many extra-curricular activities in the school. Just to name a few, she helped as SRC advisor and with the WE Act Committee with the Student Support Teacher. She also helped me coach the Boys Bantam Volleyball team which won their Sections playoff as well as the District Championship. Her input was always greatly appreciated, and she was always interested in getting to know students on a personal level outside of the classroom.

All-in-all, Kourtney did a fantastic job in her intern placement. She is truly a strong teacher candidate, and I would not hesitate to hire her as a Student Support Teacher or a classroom teacher. Please feel free to contact me if you have any more questions.

Sincerely,

Leanne M. Rutko  
Principal  
Mossbank School