



Mossbank School

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January 22, 2015

Re: Letter of Reference

To Whom It May Concern:

I was fortunate to have Kourtney Gorham, an outstanding intern, with me from the start of the 2014-2015 school year until Christmas break. As a student support and classroom teacher in a Kindergarten to grade 12 school, my role is varied each day. Kourtney was able to confidently and effectively support students with diverse needs across all of the grade levels and situations she encountered.

Kourtney's various duties included supporting students with autism spectrum disorders in early intervention, Kindergarten, and middle years classrooms, providing individualized reading intervention to students, co-teaching to support elementary reading, supporting students with behaviour needs in high school, and helping recognize and plan for other learning needs in the school. She treated all students with respect and was able to use research-based strategies to support them. She was also diligent about communication with parents and classroom teachers regarding the progress of students she worked with.

The classroom teaching roles that I supervised Kourtney performing included grade 3 and 4 Health and grade 7 and 8 Arts Education. Kourtney was very thorough in her planning. Her units included cross-curricular connections as well as important reading skills relating to our school learning improvement plan. She used a variety of instructional strategies to engage students in learning.

Kourtney also worked with our Student Leadership Council while she was here. She was organized in her co-advisor role. Her guidance provided encouragement for students as they set and planned for their priorities for school activities and initiatives. Kourtney had good rapport with students and was dependable in this role, as she was in all of her teaching and extra-curricular duties.

I would highly recommend Kourtney for a student support or classroom teaching role at any grade level. Her professionalism and maturity shone through. She was consistently prepared and organized but was also flexible in her planning based on students' needs. She revised her planning effectively throughout her teaching to address behaviour issues and to incorporate more differentiation for students. It was a pleasure to work with her and I'm sure she will excel in any teaching role.

Sincerely,

Katie Letnes

Student Support Teacher

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