

August 1, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Rochelle Shall. I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with Ms. Shall during the completion of her Oakland University student teaching assignment at Emerson Elementary School in Fraser. Ms. Shall was assigned to a 3rd grade classroom for the second half of the school year, however she spent several days at Emerson during the first half of the school year preparing for her assignment. She also quickly became the preferred substitute teacher amongst staff and substitute taught in all grade levels before and after her student teaching assignment.

Emerson Elementary and Fraser Public Schools are well known for their strong culture of professional learning communities and most recently for a major technology initiative in which students, grades 3-12 have 1:1 student iPads. So, to say Ms. Shall had several responsibilities as a student teacher would be an understatement. Ms. Shall displayed teaching skills beyond that of a student teacher or first year teacher. She established a positive classroom environment, had outstanding classroom management techniques, and built positive relationships with students, parents and colleagues. Ms. Shall's solid teaching foundation gave her the opportunity to focus on modern lesson design using technology and differentiating instruction for struggling students. Her work in lesson design and curriculum received high praise from her supervising teacher and university professor.

Ms. Shall displayed a constant commitment and dedication to the students at Emerson. She followed all Individual Education Plans, attended MTSS meetings and was responsible for data entry and analysis, and worked with support staff to achieve educational goals for individual students. Ms. Shall proactively communicated academic and social progress of her students regularly to parents.

Ms. Shall has a strong desire to constantly improve her teaching and was very self-motivated when it came to her individual professional development. She attended all district professional developments, workshops, and building level staff meetings. She often read and studied additional educational materials above and beyond her assigned university work, bringing ideas into her daily lessons and sharing with staff.

Ms. Shall is a hard working, motivated teacher, who truly loves teaching and is looking to make a difference in the lives of young people. Although she was a student teacher, Ms. Shall was considered a valuable member of the Emerson staff by her colleagues and parents alike, for the 2013-14 school year. I am very proud of her and her accomplishments. I believe given an opportunity, she would be an asset and contributing educational leader to any staff. Please feel free to contact me at 586-439-6700 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sam Argiri
Principal
Emerson Elementary School

