Susan Fiorenza Musshafen

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To Whom It May Concern:

I highly recommend Stephanie Shapiro for a teaching position in elementary education. Stephanie has performed her assignment in pre-student teaching over the past three months. Her commitment to prepare for student teaching is commendable. Stephanie was always punctual and eager to be engaged with student learning. She was firm with discipline, was observant of student needs and moved onto preparing, then teaching with ease.

Stephanie engaged in a wide variety of preparation work, teaching and assessing through her time in my classroom. She worked with another student teacher and co-taught several lessons. Stephanie and the other student teacher had prepared the lessons together and the lessons that they executed were well-timed and thorough. She addressed her objective each lesson and had follow-up materials that she used for an assessment. Once students had completed the assessment, she took on the information and used her findings as data driven instruction for her next lessons. This allowed her to reteach what was necessary and she did so in a nonthreatening way with gentle encouragement.

Writing workshop instruction had Stephanie conferencing with students, being sure to correct as needed and encourage them to move forward in their writing. She took notes on the conferences and again, did so in an encouraging manner.

Stephanie worked with the Common Core Math Modules and she took time to critically look over the expectations for students. She was of great assistance in the classroom to students and is very knowledgeable in the discipline of mathematics. She was readily available to work one on one with students who were struggling with concepts.

I see Stephanie being successful teaching within the realm of elementary education. She has a drive to learn all she can and carefully analyze how and what students have learned. Her desire to be immersed in teaching will surely enable her to perform the varied duties required of a teacher in a professional and caring manner.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. It has been a pleasure to have Stephanie Shapiro as a teacher in my classroom.

Sincerely, Susan Musskafen

Susan Musshafen, Fifth Grade Teacher

Whitney Point Central School District

Whitney Point, New York