



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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HOLLYROOD - FERNWOOD SCHOOL

Office of the Principal

To whom it may concern,

This letter of reference for Annie (Andrea Zenn) is based on her student teaching experience at Beverly Cleary School during her 2013-2014 practicum. Annie student taught in a first grade classroom with 28 students. She spent over 225 hours in the classroom

I was impressed by her confidence and ability to integrate so beautifully into our community. I was immediately impressed with her professionalism and how quickly she jumped in. During her time in my classroom, she taught an entire unit in mathematics, tutored students in reading and writing, lead the class in science, art, social studies, and geography lessons, administered tests, prepared materials, and created behavior plans for a number of students. From the beginning, Annie has been able to hold the attention of and engage the entire class with her warm but firm demeanor, she is truly a master of classroom management. With her contagious enthusiasm and the effective use of praise towards students, Annie excels at igniting a passion for learning in the students. Her ability to resolve conflict and help students calm down has been especially valuable in a first grade classroom setting where the student's social skills are still developing. She is respectful of and sensitive to children of all backgrounds. She is very aware of student's needs and moods and was very proactive to address a situation before it became an issue.

I have especially appreciated Annie's ability to communicate and collaborate with myself and the other staff in the building. She conducts herself in a manner that is professional, dependable, and respectful to the students, parents, staff and volunteers. The students are naturally drawn to her both

during class and at recess, and ask about her on her days off. She has become a valuable asset to our community and I know that she will be missed.

I have come to think of Annie as more of a team member than as a student teacher. Anyone that is lucky enough to get to work with her will value her creativity and talent as a teacher. She is quick to learn, can design and implement instruction in a meaningful way and is constantly reflecting on her practice. She would be a great asset to any school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabrielle Tanner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gabrielle Tanner

First Grade Teacher, Beverly Cleary School

503-916-6766

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