



Walker-Winter Elementary School

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WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

GREGORY J. BARACY, Ed.D.
Superintendent

JAMES EDWARDS
Principal

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To Whom it May Concern:

Christina spent the 2001-2002 school year not only working on her post-graduate degree in teaching, but in conjunction, working as an intern my second and third grade classroom. I am very pleased to write a letter of recommendation.

The culmination of Christina's internship – Lead Teaching – was the venue for her to display her talents and workmanship. During this time Christina planned timelines and academic content, integrated those with ongoing curriculum, and carried out teaching as the sole instructor of our classroom.

Christina designed and managed an interactive portfolio format for her writing curriculum. This addresses personal development in student writing and promotes learning of the 'Writing Process' for students. She taught narrative writing, poetry and research appropriate for young children. Her students enjoyed writing, showed growth and most chose writing as an activity or a means of expression during personal time.

Our students loved reading! Christina started the year reading to them at story time and during Lead Teaching, experimented with a variety of methods of teaching reading. She began by assessing students to see where each child did well and to see where they needed support and proceeded from there. The 3rd graders loved the 'Book Club' method for reading instruction! She used other current practices with the 2nd graders who progressed very well.

Everyday Math – currently used in the Ann Arbor Schools – provides a specific spiraling program. Christina carried it out professionally and according to the program guidelines. She was very willing to listen to the students' explanations in problem solving as they came to one answer in a variety of ways. She was very conscious of individual needs and addressed them personally.

Christina is supportive and nurturing by nature. She is consistently perceptive of academic and personal needs of children. She holds high expectations for her students and is willing to support and encourage them in achieving goals. She is professional in dealing with colleagues and parents and is adept at using professional resources.

I am a veteran 1st grade teacher and have taught kindergarten through fourth grade. I enjoyed sharing Christina's internship and classroom. It was encouraging to me to work with someone as nurturing, insightful, and energetic in her new profession. I highly recommend Christina as a teacher of young children.

Sherrilyn J. Speck

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