



CLAYSBURG-KIMMEL HIGH SCHOOL

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Letter of Reference for Alexandra Dyer (March 19, 2012)

I am pleased to write to you in support of **Alexandra Dyer**. Alexandra is a mature, amicable, intelligent, and dedicated young professional. I believe she would make a fine addition to any faculty.

I know Alexandra through her pre-service teaching experience. I was her cooperating teacher for that field experience in the spring of 2011. In all instances she was punctual, well-prepared, eager to be involved, and gracious in accepting any criticism. Through my formal and informal observations I had witnessed steady growth and a determination to improve each and every day. I can honestly say she exceeded my expectations for a pre-service teacher.

In one particular instance she conducted a lesson centered on a "Big Idea" that was written on the marker board. This proved to be helpful in providing a point of focus for the class. She also employed the use of a visual aid (T-chart) to compare and contrast the philosophies held by Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson towards government. In order to better facilitate the student acquisition of the knowledge needed to complete the T-chart, she had students work in small groups in a "jigsaw" structured activity. Each group was responsible for reading a portion of the text and to be able to summarize the information they had read to the rest of the class. Some students were nervous about doing this. However, Miss Dyer tactfully employed a scaffolding technique to assist the students so that they were able to feel successful. After each group had stood before the class to make their summarization, Alexandra had ratcheted up the rigor of the lesson. She had the students analyze what they had read to form a coherent description of the ideals and beliefs held by Jefferson and Hamilton by completing the T-chart.

Throughout the entire activity she provided feedback when appropriate and made herself approachable for students to ask questions.

I hope this letter provides you with a better sense of Miss Dyer's abilities and the high regard that I have for her. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (814)239-5141(ext. 1206) or via email at crodgers@cksd.k12.pa.us. I believe that Alexandra Dyer will become an outstanding educator and asset to your school district. Thank you for giving this application your fullest attention.

Sincerely,



Curt Rodgers
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