

University of
Lethbridge



Faculty of Education

January 29, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support Ms. Margaret Geary's application for a teaching position in your school district. Over the past two years I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Geary in several capacities: as her professor for Ed. 3875 (Brass Methods), as her University Consultant in Professional Semester III (PS III), and as her subject major (music) Faculty Advisor.

Margaret's musical background and training is primarily in instrumental music (band). However, her Professional Semester III internship was spent teaching classroom music (grades 2-5) and grade 5 social studies at Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School in Lethbridge, Alberta. In this context, Margaret discovered her true passion to be teaching music at the elementary level. Over the course of the semester, she made tremendous progress and grew to become a very confident and capable professional educator.

Perhaps the area in which she grew the most was in her instructional planning. She put considerable time and effort into developing her ability to plan lessons and units that lead to successful teaching and learning. Using the steps of Backward Design, she effectively integrates pedagogical knowledge with subject content and curricular knowledge. Margaret understands and uses appropriate and assessment practices (i.e. assessment as, of, and for learning) to determine the effectiveness of the teaching and learning that occurs in her classes. She also manages and leads her classes effectively. She communicates her expectations clearly at the outset and successfully establishes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. She relates well to her students and her students feel safe and cared for in her classroom.

It is also noteworthy that Margaret made a point of being actively involved in the life of the school community throughout her internship. Consequently, I am confident that she will be a real asset to any school staff. In conclusion, I am very pleased to recommend Ms. Margaret Geary for a teaching position in your school district.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ed Wasiak'.

Dr. Ed Wasiak
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