

Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School

155 Jerry Potts Blvd.
Lethbridge, AB T1K 6G8

December 16th, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

It gives me great pleasure to write a letter of reference for Miss Margaret Geary. Margaret Geary was an intern elementary teacher at Mike Mountain Horse School from September 2013 to December 2013. Margaret's teaching responsibilities included Music instruction for Grades 2 through 5 and Social Studies at the Grade 5 level. In total, Margaret's teaching assignments were approximately 50% of the school day.

During the four months that I worked with Margaret, she proved to be reliable, punctual and very accommodating to work with. Margaret was well acquainted with the curriculum objectives of the subjects she was expected to teach. She prepared her lessons in advance and her plans took into account not only the curriculum but student interests. Her lessons were organized and the necessary instruments/materials were always prepared and ready to go. Margaret worked very hard to make her lessons challenging yet interesting and fun. Her evaluation records were thorough and corresponded to the skills and concept objectives found in the Program of Studies.

This term Margaret was able to visit many different classrooms to see a variety of teachers 'in action'; observing various teaching styles and classroom management techniques. Through observation and careful reflection, Margaret has learned a lot about persistence, consistency and how to approach misbehavior with elementary aged students. She recognized that some children are much harder to direct than others and that children are more willing to take directions from an adult who is approachable, fair and encouraging. She questioned why students behaved in various ways and sought out techniques so that she could make a difference to each of them, recognizing that different approaches are needed for different children. Margaret made consistent and continuous growth in developing her own classroom management skills.

During this practicum, Margaret volunteered to assist with three different after school choirs: Junior, Senior and Bell Choir. This meant she had to learn many additional music scores and spend an additional 45 minutes each day, Monday through Friday, directing and assisting choir students. With Margaret's help our choirs were able to master their challenging Christmas repertoire. Margaret co-directed four Christmas performances both at the school and within the Lethbridge community. I believe that Margaret has a lot to offer any school music program and I hope that she continues working with young singers.

Margaret assumed responsibility with enthusiasm and was supportive of all activities around the school. She attended and participated in staff meetings, professional development activities and school social events. She has shown a desire to work hard, meet new challenges and has been cooperative and congenial to work with. Most of all, Margaret has shown a sincere concern for all of our students. She has a gentle, patient and fair manner with the children. The children have enjoyed having her as their teacher and we will all miss her.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Nevels 403-381-2211 (Wk)