January 15, 2015,

Dear Selection Committee,

 As the Head Teacher in a preschool classroom, it has been my pleasure to work with Alyssa White at the California State University Associated Students Child Development Lab. We have worked together since January 2014. Alyssa first entered the classroom as an intern, due to her desire to continue to grow and learn, as well as her dedication and commitment to children and families; I hired her the following semester as a student staff member. During her time at the ASCDL, Alyssa has consistently been a productive and contributing member of our teaching team.

Alyssa demonstrates the characteristics of a valuable employee. She is reliable, professional and possesses the attributes of a leader. I trust Alyssa too interact and communicate effectively with children, parents and staff. Additionally, Alyssa demonstrates the skills of an ongoing learner and self-starter. She has expressed her desire to grow as a professional and has taken on increasing responsibilities at the ASCDL, including taking the initiative to participate in a leadership capacity during our weekly staff meetings; she does this positively and effectively

In the classroom, Alyssa consistently approaches situations in a calm, clear, and patient manner. Alyssa is able to demonstrate her knowledge of child development and behavior management skills while maintaining her personal style and sense of humor. Alyssa is aware of the individual needs of children, in addition to the ever changing needs of the classroom; she is able to engage in intentional teaching in a variety of situations. Alyssa has the disposition and desire to be a lifelong learner; she is able to incorporate new knowledge into her skill set. Alyssa consistently challenges herself to reflect on her practice and implement new strategies.

Alyssa is a pleasure to have in the classroom. She continues to be a thoughtful, responsible teacher and employee. I feel grateful to have her as part of the team and believe she will make valuable contributions and be an asset to any program. Please feel free to contact me with any further questions.

Thank You,

Ember Funk

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