



# School District 622

---

NORTH ST. PAUL - MAPLEWOOD - OAKDALE

TARTAN HIGH SCHOOL  
828 NORTH GREENWAY AVENUE, OAKDALE, MN 55128  
PHONE: (651) 702-8600 FAX: (651) 702-8691  
GUIDANCE: (651) 702-8630 ATHLETICS: (651) 702-8620

May 6, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to be writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Ms. Jillian Miller. Jillian student taught with me at Tartan Senior High School for fourteen weeks quickly assuming the full responsibility of three sections of 12<sup>th</sup> grade Political Science and Social Problems. I am delighted to be able to provide information regarding Jillian as a person and as a professional.

Jillian can be described best through the use of the word - *dedicated*. From day one it was apparent to me that Jillian would be a great teacher. She listened to the students' questions and concerns, created activities that challenged students at all academic levels and consistently worked with students that needed one-on-one assistance. Her dedication could be seen during her lectures because she consistently supplemented the required material with various examples, applicable current events and thought-provoking questions. Her mastery of content and use of varying pedagogical approaches were noticeable in her attempt to reach all learning styles and levels, and diverse student interests of the subject. These strengths helped Jillian immediately gain the students' trust and respect. Her ability to establish such a positive rapport with the students simply amazed and impressed me. She had a natural ability to associate with the students and they would consistently seek her out for extra help, advice and simply for conversation purposes. Some teachers work for years to establish positive rapport with their students, however, Jillian was able to achieve this valuable link in less than fourteen weeks.

*Reflective* is another word that accurately describes Jillian and her abilities in the classroom. Jillian was always curious and open to trying various forms of cooperative learning strategies, assessments and classroom management techniques. Whether the lesson went well or could have been improved, Jillian was always willing to listen to suggestions, learn from her strengths and weaknesses, and make the appropriate adjustments to the next lesson(s). Jillian's proactive nature also extended beyond the classroom. She frequently observed fellow teachers and attended professional in-services offered through our building and district staff development committees. These experiences helped strengthen her interpersonal skills and allowed her to see the benefits of working with colleagues throughout different curriculum. Jillian also worked within a professional learning committee. Tartan has a strong PLC program in place and Jillian was exposed to essential outcomes, common assessments and data analysis.

DR. JOHN BEZEK, PRINCIPAL  
MR. LEE ALGER, ACTIVITY DIRECTOR

BENJAMIN KUSCH, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
KAREN WOLLAK, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
LAURA KLINGSPORN, DEAN OF STUDENTS

---

**A community partnership where learning and citizenship come first**