

Letter of Recommendation for Ms Jillian Miller

May 15, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am most pleased and honored to write a letter of recommendation for Ms Jillian Miller. As a supervisor of student teaching at Bethel University, I worked with Jill at Tartan High School during her 14 week placement (Political Science and Civics). I continue to be amazed at Jill's ever-present positive nature as an educator. Her passion for teaching is obvious and her students are the benefactors.

You will always get an enthusiastically stated "Good Morning" from Ms Miller. Each day the students are greeted when they enter the classroom; and when class is over, they sense a high level of respect from her. When I think of Ms Miller I think of professional integrity. Each day at Tartan was met with the teaching attitude that "this day" is the best day for learning. Specifically stated, Jill challenged herself to prepare each lesson as a model for "best practice" education.

One of Ms Miller's many strengths is the genuine motivation she models in her teaching. Her positive and enthusiastic nature brings out the best in each student. She personalizes her teaching to reach each student. As a result, each student has a perpetual attention span. Students leave class with a sense of engagement; that each of them contributed to the learning of that particular lesson.

Effective teaching centers upon high quality teacher leadership, coupled by student discovery learning. Jill intentionally designs her lessons to include these qualities. Her class discussions are driven by timely learning styles that are sure to capture each student. For example, her cooperative teacher states that Jill wisely uses supplementary material to support the daily lesson objectives. She is very creative in her selections, all in the best interest of the students. Impressively, Jill's lessons are designed to meet curricular standards, with an authentic twist that enhance student perspectives. This rare teaching quality encourages lifelong learning.

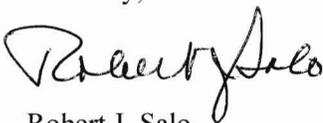
Her lesson on "How a Bill Becomes a Law" is a classic. Initiated by the stated objective ". . . explain the process of how a bill becomes a law," and a video "I'm Just a Bill," Jill required the following learning outcomes:

1. Identify the necessary terms
2. Students create their own bills
3. Students explain the process by writing a story

These outcomes encouraged authentic learning by the inclusion of all levels of Bloom's Taxonomy. Plus, a variety of learning styles were accommodated through active participation and independent practice.

Ms Jillian Miller has my highest recommendation for a teaching position. Her sincere professional nature and strong desire to teach along the "cutting edge" of educational innovation will make a very positive impact on the school community that is fortunate to select her as a member of its teaching staff. She is an outstanding educator.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Salo
Supervisor of Student Teaching
Bethel University

r-salo@bethel.edu Home Phone: 763 – 689 – 2518