

February 3, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

During the 2012-2013 school year, I was host to a wonderful teacher candidate in my grade three classroom, Megan Goodine. During the time Megan was in my class, she demonstrated a great understanding of what it takes to become a teacher.

Megan comfortably engaged in conversations with the students and spent time getting to know the children she was working with. They loved getting the attention that Megan provided. She was always very positive and caring and took much time to listen and interact with each child.

Megan planned and implemented a mini unit on place value and urban/rural communities. The activities and lessons that she chose were very hands-on and engaging for students. Megan used the SmartBoard whenever possible to add the element of technology to her lessons. Her lessons included explicit instructions for the whole group, which lead to guided lessons and then independent practice. The students were engaged and focused during the time Megan was teaching. Megan provided differentiated instruction to those students working at a lower or higher level and was able to capably manage the on-goings of the classroom during their work time. She used positive reinforcement, reminders and anchor charts to manage behaviour during and after her lessons.

After her lessons, Megan used the appropriate strategies to assess each child's learning. She observed students' engagement/conversations during work stations and recorded using anecdotal notes and checklists. Using this method, Megan was able to see who participated and she was able to assess student's knowledge of the topic. Megan also used "exit" cards. Gathering this information was beneficial to Megan as she was able to see where the focus of her next lesson should be.

Megan was such an asset both in my classroom and on the many class trips that our school attended. Due to school construction, our students were bussed weekly to use other facilities in the community. Megan collected permission forms, organized groups and supervised small groups during our excursions. Megan was always very positive and enthusiastic when she was interacting with students, teachers and parents.

It was a pleasure to have worked with Megan. She is a very keen and enthusiastic learner and a positive leader for her students. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 613-388-2670.

Sincerely,

Sara Sutcliffe