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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to recommend Mrs. Christina Zecher for your current early childhood position. I had the pleasure of meeting and working with Tina as she completed her student teaching experience in my Kindergarten classroom at San Marcos Elementary School in Chandler. Mrs. Zecher took the initiative to spend much more time with us than was required, and in doing so not only became an essential part of our classroom, but also an integral part of our Kindergarten team.

Tina took the initiative to contact me before school began so she could be a part of the first two weeks of the Kindergarten experience to gain a realistic picture of the challenges they hold. She also began her student teaching two weeks early in order to get re-acquainted with the students and routine and begin teaching as soon as possible. The extra effort she puts in to all that she does shines throughout her lessons. Tina always went above and beyond what was expected of her and was excellent at bringing in items making it easy for students to relate to the lessons she was teaching. One that sticks out was her lesson on astronauts, the following day Tina showed up at school with a large grocery bag full of winter gloves, nuts, bolts, and coins. The students wore the gloves and tried to pick up the coins and put the nuts on the bolts to prove how challenging it would be to wear all of the protective clothing an astronaut must wear.

Mrs. Zecher is self-motivated and enthusiastic about not just teaching, but also reaching every single student. She has an inherent ability to seek out those students needing extra assistance even before they can seek help. Tina did a very nice job of managing every aspect of the classroom from lesson planning, instructing, classroom management, and remediation for those in need. Tina used technology to enhance her lessons within the classroom and used the internet for new lesson ideas. She was not afraid to ask for help when needed, though the need was rare. Most importantly, Tina was very reflective of how each and every lesson transpired. She would tweak little things to make improvements even between one small reading group and the next to maximize learning and success.

In her time at San Marcos, Tina became a part of our classroom, Kindergarten team, and school community. She attended and assisted in our weekly grade level team planning and any extra activities. Tina also attended grade level meetings with the principal and curriculum specialist. She attended weekly Teacher Assistance Team meetings where the team would discuss students needing additional help and interventions. Tina had the opportunity to be a member of a student's IEP team and attend the meetings to review and implement his IEP. Finally, she also attended faculty meetings twice a month.

As you can see, Tina has that natural teaching ability that shines as she works with students and adults on campus. She is willing to wear a turkey hat and recite a poem or dress as a scientist to conduct an experiment. Tina's quest for excellence in teaching and learning has set the stage for her to become an extremely successful teacher. It is without hesitation that I highly recommend you consider Mrs. Christina Zecher for your current early childhood position.

Sincerely,


Jolene Gallup