9253 Gee Street Juneau, Alaska 99801 March 29, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Jeremy Neldon for a teaching position. I first met Jeremy when he was a student in my math methods classes for the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) at the University of Alaska Southeast during the school year of 1999 – 2000. He immediately intrigued me with his insights and quick mind. I was delighted by his enthusiasm for teaching math in a conceptual way with a balanced approach. He has been employed at a school in which I acted as a CSRD grant facilitator and supervised MAT interns. We have collaborated on math units and have taught in the same classroom on several occasions. I am well qualified to attest to his teaching.

He is by nature a collaborator and has been an active member of his school's planning team for integrated art experiences across the grade levels and the Collaborative Friends (known as Critical Friends in other areas) meetings that are held once a month. He is well respected and liked by his peers and is considered an instructional leader.

His eye is on the individual child and that child's learning. Jeremy brings a creativity to his teaching that naturally engages the students and creates a wonderful learning environment. Students are eager to come to his classroom and feel valued and safe within his classroom community. Glacier Valley, where he teaches, is a Title I school with a very diverse, challenging population. The staff is committed to excellence and the school is making Adequate Yearly Progress. Jeremy expects much from his students yet is a master of scaffolding them securely so that they can reach their goals and meet standards.

Jeremy has a background of dramatic study, and it is a joy to watch him teach. His voice quality and tone capture the students' interest and he is able to hold it as he delivers his lessons. Jeremy has excellent classroom management skills enhanced by non-verbal classroom management techniques. He has taken an overview class and has been coached by me, as a state level trainer for non-verbal classroom management, using these methods in the classroom.

I have acted as a Quality School Consultant for the State of Alaska and have over 28 years of experience in the regular classroom. I can truly say that Jeremy is in the top 5% of teachers that I have known and observed. Your staff, students and parents would be enriched by their experiences with Jeremy. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me, and I would be delighted to assist you in your decision to hire Jeremy.

Sincerely,

Vynn V. Williams

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