

Middle Canyon Elementary

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March 27, 2015

To whom it may concern:

Melissa has worked as a Kindergarten teacher at Middle Canyon Elementary for the past 4 years. During that short time here she has distinguished herself as a teacher. She has very tight and efficient classroom routines and procedures. She emphasizes student engagement for students and utilizes numerous teacher signals and cues, and she is a thorough lesson planner, especially regarding timing and pacing in a half day kindergarten class.

In her class each day you will see a “Morning Meeting.” Students are fully engaged through both interesting content and the fact that expectations for them are very clear. It is systematic and if a student becomes distracted they are quickly redirected and pulled back into the discussion. The meeting is broken into segments—transitions to other support activities are tight and organized. For example at one point students move to tables to practice writing. Materials are passed out by two students, the class moves to their table and completes their assignment, then students move back to the carpet where the next instructional segment begins.

This year we have pushed to implement writer’s workshop in Kindergarten. Mrs. Osmun engages students in the writing process and students are producing their best work ever. We are also adopting a new Math text. Mrs. Osmun has clearly focused on both great modeling, and student concrete application of and understanding of the curriculum. She is a fine teacher and will be highly successful as she advances her study of children and learning.

It will be difficult to see her leave, but she will be looking for a position closer to her husband’s schooling. However, if there are any questions regarding her candidacy, please contact me, 435-833-1906.

Sincerely,

Dr. David J. Whiting
Principal