



March 23, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:
From: Julia Taylor, Principal
Re: Megan Teresi

Rolling Green Elementary is a year round school that features small group instruction, project based instruction for social studies and science instruction, and also extra weeks of learning called intersession. The free/reduced count for the building is 37%, students represent 23% minority status, and parents and students choose Rolling Green as it is a school of "choice" in the school district.

Megan was selected from among our substitute teaching staff to be one of three staff members that taught during intersession week March 21- 25, 2016 . During this week Megan instructed multi-age groups of students with the theme of "Sports week – History of all Sports".

Megan worked as a "team" with another teacher to provide an outstanding intersession featuring several ways for students to demonstrate their new learning. She used: a daily expectation and by weekly project / theme related snack activity / and ticket out daily with notes about their learning or pictures representing that they learned that day. She contributed to the collaborative planning. After watching the pre- K through Gr. 5 mixed student group, she suggested to team members that they add a book A – Z of things the little ones could draw and contribute to about their specific historical sport topic. Megan sent students google documents to capture student exercise data and had students compare the stats using this shared document. She also set up google pages for the younger students and structured their pages by title (history of sport/ famous person of this sport/ incredible facts about this sport). Students were highly successful with their projects and demonstrated their learning.

Megan has been highly responsible and professional and has gone "beyond" and "above" the usual job description. Megan quickly established relationships with the students and they worked very hard for her during the time she was here.

Her efforts at making the room more student centered have made the students more actively engaged and provides them with choices to be made each day to move through the activities by the end of the week.

Megan is very impressive as a beginning teacher because she did incorporate the high level of student involvement, active learning, and collaborative practice that was evident all week.

Of all the beginning teachers I have worked with the past 35 years , I would rate her in the top 7% because of her initiative and her ability to work with students and staff.

Julia Messersmith Taylor
Office: 515-457-5901
Cell:
Email: taylorj@urbandale.k12.ia.us