



PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

School of Education

Tacoma, Washington 98447-0003

Phone: 253/535-7272

Fax: 253/535-7184

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To Whom It May Concern:

Jeffrey Daughtry has asked that I write a recommendation letter for him. I am delighted to do so. This past fall semester, Jeff was a student in my EDUC 565 Art and Practice of Teaching course which had as its focus an integrated math/science perspective. Jeff's strengths include 1) outstanding communicative abilities, 2) a strong interest in children and their learning and 3) an ability to reflect on and grow from his experience. I will elaborate on each of these strengths.

Jeff distinguished himself in my class with an excellent repeat presentation of a workshop he gave to 56 teachers from Bethel Junior High. The presentation was on how teachers could implement a discussion web reading strategy into their lessons. Jeff's presentation was exceptionally polished and professional for a beginning pre-service teacher. I usually do not see interns who are capable, at this early stage in their preservice development, of presenting material in such an organized and professional way. Jeff's peers were quite positive about his presentation, as were, I understand, the teachers at Bethel. My impression, when Jeff was done, was that he has the potential to be not only a good teacher, but also an excellent building principal. Jeff is personable and collaborative. He is well liked by his peers and works well on various teams with kinds of people. He contributes positively to discussions and to the overall environment of the class. He has a great deal of energy—always a positive attribute in a beginning teacher!

Jeff's strong interest in children--his fundamental caring and desire to mentor--comes through in his words and actions time and again. He has mentioned to me his desire to help kids, to get them motivated in their education, and to foster that through innovative as well as basic skill building activities. Jeff is clearly a student-centered teacher, one who would develop his own knowledge and skills in the service of his students. He is familiar with the state reforms in math and science, and with developing lessons and units toward the EALR's and WASL's. In short, Jeff is prepared to teach students in ways that are congruent with the policies of your district.

One of Jeff's strongest attributes is his ability to reflect on his experience and grow from it. Again, this quality is remarkable in an entering preservice teacher, many of whom dislike reflecting about their own actions and words. Jeff, however, can revisit issues that have arisen in his teaching and learning and consider them from various perspectives. In this regard, he shows a capacity for teacher leadership that will ultimately benefit him and those with whom he collaborates.

In short, I can highly recommend Jeff to you. Although I have not seen Jeff teach in a secondary classroom, the qualities I have observed would predict that Jeff would be a highly capable and positive contributor to your school.

Feel free to call if you have any other questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sue Yeran".

Sue Yeran, Ph.D.

(253) 535-8378