



Adrian College

December 2, 2015

Letter of Recommendation for Morgan Pendleton:

I have known Morgan Pendleton for 4 years. She has been my student for 4 classes at the 200,300 and 400 levels. I have supervised her as a work study employee for three semesters. She has worked closely with me and other faculty and students as a significant part of the Adrian College Track and Explore program and I was her college supervisor for her Associate Teaching semester. All of my experiences with Morgan have been delightful and rewarding. She is inspirational to work with, responsible, kind and dedicated.

Morgan is a conscientious and an exemplary student. Her work is outstanding and she strives to complete each assignment with precision and care. She loves to learn and participates enthusiastically in classroom settings of any size. Her positive attitude brightens the room and encourages others to perform to the best of their ability.

Morgan became involved with the Track and Explore Program during its inaugural year of 2012. Her responsibilities have included:

- Initial planning curriculum team
- Website maintenance: virtualtrackandexplore.weebly.com/
- Lesson plan development
- Teacher training
- Inventory and budget
- Assistant teacher (one of 10)
- Lead teacher (one of 2 with a responsibility of 10 other teachers)

Track and Explore provides field trip experiences for 1400 students in grades 5-8 in the Lenawee County area each May. To date the program has reached over 4000 students. Morgan's efforts as a work study student for three semesters and as a member of the Track and Explore team from 2012-2015 have contributed significantly to the success of this award winning program.

As a Track and Explore teacher, Morgan's day began before 7:30 and ended about 4:30. She was on her feet teaching for most of the day. She taught a variety of lessons but primarily she developed and implemented the Water Quality unit for 5-8 grades. Her class size would vary from 12-30. These lessons were taught in a tent, outside in the Graves Campground area of the Michigan International Speedway. Morgan taught in cold weather, wet weather and extremely hot weather. She had a smile on her face

and energy in her voice always. I never had to worry about her professional disposition with the children or the chaperones and teachers. Morgan's teaching style and professional nature were often complemented in evaluations of the program.

It has also been my privilege and pleasure to supervise Morgan for her Associate Teaching during the fall of 2015. Morgan taught 5th grade math and science in Adrian, Michigan. She worked with a diverse, energetic and often challenging group of children in a full classroom that was seldom climate controlled with partially functioning and inconsistent technology. Morgan developed lessons and units that interested and challenged her students. She cared deeply about their success and worked to improve herself and her lessons each day. She thinks on her feet and can modify and adjust lessons to fit the needs of the students or the changing schedule of a large school. Morgan not only welcomes feedback she seeks it. In her desire to ever improve, Morgan asks for suggestions and implements new strategies with ease. Her experience in the Adrian 5th grade included working with a large team of 8 teachers. She had to align her lessons with others and met with them daily during lunch and before and after school. I visited Morgan's classroom each week for 10 weeks. I observed a variety of instructional strategies including cooperative learning, projects, guided reading, direct instruction with formative assessment embedded in it and class discussions. Morgan involves each and every student in her lessons. She is an engaging educator who holds high expectations for her students and works, diligently, to help them achieve those goals.

Morgan Pendleton is empathetic, creative and dedicated. She considers it an honor to be an educator and has wanted to become a teacher for most of her life. Morgan is a treasure. Any school would be blessed to have her as a member of their faculty. I can only imagine what a magnificent teacher she will become given the wisdom that comes with time and experience. Personally, I have been an educator for 35 years and I have enjoyed every minute working with and teaching Morgan Pendleton. Please give her application every consideration.

Sincerely,

Penny Cobau-Smith

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