

SAMPLE STUDENT TEACHING RECOMMENDATIONS

SAMPLE #1 (Recommendation for exceptionally strong performance)

Throughout her entire student teaching experience, (Name) has exhibited a remarkable level of creativity, professionalism and has earned the respect of all. During her time at (Name) Elementary School, (Name) has devoted her time to understanding the current curriculum and how to best present it to the students. She has embraced the challenge of classroom management and set her behavior standards high through a program she created and implemented independently. As stated earlier, (Name) has earned the respect of the 24 students who present a wide range of behavioral needs, developmental abilities, and ethnicity. In all cases they listen, interact, and respond to her well. (Name) is clearly a gifted teacher who has the natural ability to be an outstanding teacher.

(Name) demonstrates strengths in the areas of organization and creativity. Many times throughout her time at (School Name), (Name) went about and beyond her expectations. She went to outside resources and frequently used technology to gather ideas and present materials for her math, language arts and science instruction. (Name) was always looking for new ideas to better help the students learn.

One of (Name's) many strengths is her clear understanding of the curriculum. (Name) has a natural talent for teaching both math and language arts. During her student teaching experience, (Name) created an entire unit on the book, Trumpet of the Swan. She also implemented differentiated lessons for several math units. During these unit studies, (Name) researched, planned and implemented the unit lessons. The students truly enjoyed this experience. During this time (Name) also implemented and created different assessments. A final project that (Name) creatively implemented was a Community Service Learning Project. The outcome was amazing and it truly allowed for her talent to shine.

Overall, (Name) is an extremely caring, patient and dedicated teacher. She is always willing to go the extra mile to be sure that each student's needs are met. It has been an honor to have (Name) in our third grade classroom. The students and I have learned so much from her. She is a well prepared teacher and I am enthusiastic in my belief that she will contribute positively to any school fortunate enough to have her.

SAMPLE #2 (Recommendation for effective performance)

(Name) has successfully completed a sixteen week student teaching assignment in a fifth grade classroom at (Name) Elementary School in the (Name) Community School District. Throughout the semester (Name) has been a dedicated teacher, teaching reading, writing, language arts, and three sections of science.

From the onset, (Name) was caring and professional in the way he dealt with the students, staff, and parents. He made positive contributions to the classroom and developed a supportive relationship with the students and his cooperating teacher, (Name).

(Name) began his assignment with a willingness to do all he could to make his teaching experience a positive one. His friendly and considerate demeanor appealed to the fifth graders, and they responded favorably to his presence in the classroom. He was sensitive to the needs of the students, and yet maintained a professional distance in managing both small and large group learning situations.

(Name) was proficient in designing lessons which enhanced the curriculum and challenged the wide range of student abilities within the classroom. He possessed effective organizational skills. (Name) was also able to assess the students' performance upon completion of activities and conduct an effective self-critique of the lessons. He became comfortable in the classroom, enjoyed the students, and communicated his objectives. He continually experimented with a variety of teaching techniques, incorporated technology whenever possible, and carefully planned activities to fit the students' needs.

Developing classroom management skills was one of (Name's) top priorities. He clearly stated his expectations and followed through with consequences when necessary. He had a positive influence on student behavior and his consistency proved effective throughout the semester.

(Name) would be an asset to any teaching situation due to his leadership skills, positive contributions, and effective teaching methods. He would be an excellent role model for students, and I highly recommend him for any position he pursues.

SAMPLE STUDENT TEACHING RECOMMENDATIONS continued

SAMPLE #3 (Recommendation for less effective performance)

(Name) completed her student teaching at (School), (District), (City). (Name) worked in a self-contained fourth grade classroom from (beginning date) to (ending date). The class consisted of 30 students ranging in ability from mainstreamed special needs to talented and gifted students.

It took some time for (Name) to get to know the students and the classroom routine. She assisted in team-teaching situations as well as routine duties. She taught in all subject areas and with guidance she was the head teacher for two weeks. She was cautious about teaching math, but she was willing to put together and teach a unit on time and money in which she used manipulatives and technology to facilitate learning. She was more confident in the language arts area. She was challenged by planning for, and working with, more than one group of students at a time. She became more aware of planning for the appropriate use of time by all students. One group enjoyed participating in a play that she organized for them. She is developing the ability to recognize and adjust for a variety of learning levels within a classroom. (Name) has shown an interest in trying new ideas and is willing to listen to advice.

I feel (Name) would benefit from being a part of a mentoring program as a new teacher. She displayed a willingness to learn and she showed genuine concern for students. Her engaging manner helped her establish good rapport with the students. In a supportive environment, she will then be able to further refine her abilities and to grow as a teacher. With her willing attitude and warmth toward students, she would be an asset as a teacher in an elementary school.

Phrases useful in describing student teachers with areas of weakness:

"has made progress in"	"continues to develop successful strategies"
"has strived to"	"continued to show outstanding efforts to"
"willingly attempts to"	"has experienced difficulty in"
"has made efforts to"	"has been unable to implement consistently"
"has become more"	"has shown some growth in"
"will need support with"	"with a moderate degree of success"
"was aware of the need to...but efforts were marginally successful"	
"initially demonstrated some difficulty in...however progress was shown"	

Powerful words which may be appropriate to describe strong student teachers:

Articulate	Effective	Sophisticated	Intelligent
Observant	Significant	Expressive	Creative
Efficient	Cooperative	Imaginative	Assertive
Dependable	Mature	Thoughtful	Innovative
Extraordinary	Excellent	Distinguished	Superb
Exceptional	Special	Superior	Noteworthy
Outstanding	Extensive	Notable	Fabulous

*What is, was,
What was, is
What will be is up to me.
Anonymous*