



School of Education
Arcadia University
450 S. Easton Road
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March 21, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to recommend Ms. Susan Sullivan for a teaching position in your school.

I met Ms. Sullivan as a graduate student in my ED552 Methods of Science Teaching course during the 2015 Spring Semester in which she did very well in the course. She is passionate about learning and shares her motivation of teaching STEM subjects to others. For instance, she devoted numerous hours to plan her STEM in a Box instructional activities that highlight the science and engineering practices based on the Next Generation Science Standards. In her project, she meticulously designed, redesigned and taught lessons to help elementary students learn the science practices while investigating the characteristics of different materials (flour, salt and water) to develop and improve the process of creating play dough. She created and used assessments to analyze students' thinking, which informed the progress of her instruction.

Ms. Sullivan's reflection paper showed her attentiveness to students' engagement and response to her instructional activities, "During the experiment, all students were actively observing; no one was engaged in side conversations or observing something other than the experiment. All students were attentive and actively participating during our closing discussion." She also reflected on her students' ability to collect and report data from their investigation, "students accurately observed and recorded experiment results, and all groups volunteered to share their results with the class. However, students did not list their responses individually as I'd intended." The STEM in a Box lesson and quotes from her reflection paper show her readiness to plan and implement lessons that highlight the STEM practices as well as her responsiveness to students in her classroom. Moreover, I believe that Ms. Sullivan's method of teaching is a shift from the traditional way to reformed-based on how most educators' view STEM teaching and learning.

I am confident that Ms. Sullivan will bring her maturity, work ethic, and passion into her teaching. Please feel free to contact me at macalalaga@arcadia.edu if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Augusto J. Macalalag Jr.

Dr. Augusto Z. Macalalag Jr.

Assistant Professor and Director of Science, Technology, Engineering,
and Mathematics (STEM) Education Program