

**Hampton Township School District
Hampton Middle School**



Eric Stennett, Ed.D., Principal
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To Whom It May Concern:

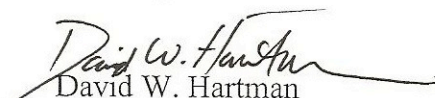
Ms. Emily Skirtich is a dedicated educator whose professionalism, innovative spirit, skillful classroom management, and commitment to genuine student learning are nothing short of exemplary. In the 16 weeks she spent in my classroom, Ms. Skirtich inspired countless successes in students of all ability levels, and even inspired me to redevelop several units to better target our learning objectives. Having observed more than 300 hours of her instruction, I am confident in my very high regard for Ms. Skirtich's character, intellect, and promise as an educator.

During the last 16 weeks, Ms. Skirtich student taught in my classroom with tremendous success. She began with small-group instruction and brief mini-lessons, and eventually took full control of planning units and lessons, creating all materials, delivering instruction, and assessing student learning. Ms. Skirtich skillfully instructed all 121 English students across five classes, including our co-taught inclusion class. In a course with a significant emphasis on informational texts and writing instruction, Ms. Skirtich proved adept at teaching a wide variety of ELA objectives. She developed and taught units focused on decoding complex texts, applying advanced vocabulary, avoiding commonly confused word errors in writing, and effectively structuring a multi-paragraph essay. Ms. Skirtich guided students to improve the strength of their persuasive arguments, assisted learners as they studied and improved their oral presentation skills, and collaborated with colleagues on a complex multi-disciplinary unit with a project-based culminating assignment. Throughout these diverse units, she effectively infused technology, engaged learners, and inspired each of her students to create meaningful successes and grow substantially as thinkers and writers.

Impressively, Ms. Skirtich also took considerable initiative in promoting student successes outside of the classroom. Early in her placement, Ms. Skirtich sought out our gifted educator, with whom she paired to develop afterschool programming for the mock trial club, which included bringing an attorney to school to meet and work with students. She additionally provided considerable support to the student newspaper club, teaching journalistic mini-lessons and conferencing with students individually to help them improve their writing. Because of her industry and efficacy inside and outside the classroom, and taking into account the countless lunches I saw her give up to provide tutoring, remediation, or enrichment to scores of students, I am genuinely impressed by what I perceive to be Ms. Skirtich's total commitment to boundless success for all students.

I fully give Ms. Emily Skirtich my highest recommendation. She is impeccably professional, collaborates with colleagues to inspire genuine learning, shows an unwavering commitment to student success, and seems to have a natural knack for classroom management that is firm, fair, and fun. She appears to deeply enjoy teaching, and importantly, students appreciate her presence in the classroom. I feel confident that a district who hires Ms. Emily Skirtich will gain a valuable professional who will positively influence all those around her throughout her career.

Sincerely,


David W. Hartman
English Teacher