



SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

CANEVIN HALL • PITTSBURGH, PA • 15282-0502

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Human Resources,

I am Duquesne University's Supervisor of student teaching for Ms. Emily Rose Skirtich. Emily did her student teaching at Hampton Middle School in the Hampton Township School District, a district just north of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and will complete her student teaching assignment in April 2014.

Ms. Skirtich is not only prepared well in content and pedagogy, but impresses with her knowledge of children, classroom management, organization, and enthusiasm. For each of my observations, she planned an ambitious lesson that used every minute of the class period. She delivered the lesson with the facility of a master teacher. She motivated, modeled, led in making a graphic organizer, used grouping and pairing for student interaction, reinforced, practiced, involved students, and provided hands-on activities. Her transitions were a highlight as each of the several transitions were achieved with full student participation and cooperation in just seconds. Her lesson extended from bell to bell with 100% time on task.

Emily's classroom, students, routines, procedures, effective teaching techniques, appear to be those of an experienced professional. She developed a rapport with her students that quickly afforded her equality with her co-op in the student's and the co-op's eyes. This rapport was accompanied with respect, maintenance of routines and procedures, and a quality, learning environment.

Her continual reflection led her to augment her own effectiveness by creating or adapting techniques she witnessed in observing her coop or colleagues. Her co-op related that the student teacher-co-op relationship with Emily was more of collaboration. He noted that, "Emily holds herself to standards that are higher . . ."

Ms. Emily Rose Skirtich is a first rate educator! She will bring added value to a faculty, school, and district that is fortunate enough to have or make a position for her.

Respectfully,

Mr. John Schwoebel

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