

January 31, 2015

To whom it may concern,

I with great honor and privilege submit this letter of recommendation for the administrative position that Venita Lawyer is applying for. I have had the distinction of being able to work closely with Venita over the past 13 years. The core of her very being is one of ensuring that ALL students can learn no matter their background, experiences, or learning styles. Venita has a strong conviction to ensure that all students with special needs are integrated into the general education setting as much as their needs dictate. She is committed to creating an educational climate and culture that is positive, upbeat, progressive, safe and secure. The moment one walks into her building, the atmosphere immediately radiates the love for learning which envelopes the classrooms and hallways. All levels of staff, students, and even family members frequently comment on this feeling which is also demonstrated by the smiles that are on everyone's faces as they go through the day.

Venita is data driven and possesses the ability to task analyze where the curricular holes are within the building and then is able to implement the instructional frameworks or strategies needed to meet the building needs. One such example is when I was serving as Special Education Coordinator at East Noble Schools. As the administrator at North Side Elementary, she offered to house two sections of a program addressing the needs of students with significant emotional, social, and behavioral needs. Through a collaborative effort she created and supported a structured behavioral based class with a level system which provided a safe place for these significantly emotionally challenged students with which to learn. In addition, as a certified therapy dog handler, she was instrumental in the integration of two therapy dogs into the school setting which added yet another layer of support to the educational experiences of the students across the school.

Venita possesses exemplary social skills qualities. Her ability to communicate with others is done in such a fashion that people immediately are able to trust and look up to her for guidance. This has been observed by students, parents and staff alike. She treats each and every individual within the building as a member of her family. She knows all of the students by name and by building relationships with all of the student's families a sense of confidence is left so that they will know that their child will be cared for and protected.

It is with great respect and admiration that I offer my recommendation to you to strongly consider Venita's qualities and experiences as being an excellent fit for the position she is applying for.

Sincerely,

Michele Grimm
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