

To Whom It May Concern:

I have had the honor of working as Briana Allen's colleague for the past five years at James Giles School, where she is employed as the Technology teacher for the junior high. During the time I have taught with Briana, I have been extremely impressed by her many talents as an educator and as someone who possesses vast knowledge in the technological field.

As someone acquainted with her teaching abilities, I have worked closely with Briana over the past four years, and I have directly witnessed her strong pedagogical skills. Briana seems to internalize the learning process that students use to access knowledge. She carefully plans her lessons so that students acquire skills with guidance and through direct "hands-on" experiences, thereby fostering a learning experience that is meaningful and realistic. Furthermore, Briana designs projects that enable students to showcase their knowledge in a portfolio-like manner. This approach to teaching and assessment enables the students to take pride in their efforts and to demonstrate in a tangible, valuable manner the fruits of their knowledge.

In addition, I am truly amazed by Briana's natural talent for communicating esoteric technological information in an extremely understandable manner. Briana has orchestrated several technology in-services for the faculty at our school, and her ability to ensure that her constituency grasped the material reveals that she is definitely a consummate teacher. For example, when District 80 decided to require all faculty members to post web pages, Briana gathered the teachers and administrators in the computer lab for a lesson in HTML. Because of her efforts, all faculty members at our school were able to create, design, and customize web pages, thereby increasing the efficiency of school to home communication.

After 17 years as a teacher, I can earnestly state that I respect Briana Allen as an extraordinary educator; moreover, I envision the bright future that lies before her in the field of education.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Ben E. Celano