

Date: April 5, 2016

To Whom It May Concern

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Laurie Smith; Laurie and I have served together on the South Royalton School Board for the past six years, the last three as chair and vice chair. We have also served on the Orange Windsor Supervisory Union Board and cooperated extensively on committee work for our Supervisory Union. Throughout this work Laurie has maintained a strong desire to return to teaching. Laurie is a remarkable human being.

Laurie is intelligent, hardworking and passionate about education, she has been a leader and advocate for all students across all grade levels. One example of an initiative she began was the "On the Road" enrichment program at South Royalton. This program provided elementary students throughout our supervisory union with challenging, creative learning experiences and offered parents help in better understanding their children's learning needs. Laurie convinced organizations from the area to share their talents for a Saturday morning of hands-on learning with workshops including Trout Unlimited led fly casting lessons, a Dartmouth college brain research workshop, and thermal imaging and mechanical advantage demonstrations with instructors from Randolph Technical Career Center. To organize all of the volunteers and workshops, to acquire the required space, and to spearhead the grant writing was a tremendous undertaking. The children and parents absolutely loved the experience.

I have always found Laurie well prepared, thoughtful and professional in our work together on the school board and in our many collaborations on various committees. Laurie has the ability to weigh in and articulate in a manner that makes her a natural leader and respected colleague. Laurie's energy, dedication and conviction to education will be a tremendous addition to your teaching community. I recommend Laurie without reservation. It is my sincere hope you consider Laurie Smith for this position.

Thank you,

Timothy P. Murphy

South Royalton, Vermont