

Jodie Rettinhouse
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December 17, 2013

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Ms. Dana Saunders

To whom it may concern,

Please accept this letter of recommendation for Ms. Dana Saunders in consideration for a teaching position with your district/school. I got to know Ms. Saunders this last semester when she completed one of her student teaching assignments in our son's second grade classroom at Shasta Elementary School in Chico, CA.

From a parent's perspective, Ms. Saunders has demonstrated her abilities as an outstanding educator. My husband Rick was fortunate enough to interact with Ms. Saunders weekly during his volunteer time in the classroom. Following are some of his observations:

- She was great at keeping the kids focused and engaged on what she was teaching them.
- She clearly knew the material she was teaching well, and how to teach that material to small children.
- She was a leader to not only the students, but also to the parent helpers. She really seemed to be almost co-teaching the class, and it was difficult to remember that she was a student-teacher during this time.
- It was obvious that the students really respected her.

To get yet another opinion as I embarked upon writing this letter, I decided to ask our son what he liked about Ms. Saunders, and without hesitation he blurted out, "she's fun!" So there you have it! As parents, our number one concern is that our son loves learning and Ms. Saunders has 100% provided that for him.

In yet another example, Ms. Saunders's ability to engage her students was evident on her last day in our son's classroom. Upon picking up my son from school that day, he immediately unzipped his backpack and pulled out the poem Ms. Saunders had written for the kids about her time with them. He enthusiastically read the poem with pride, and as a parent it made me tear-up a bit, not only because the content of the poem was so special, but because he couldn't wait to read it to me. I felt the moment was a perfect example of a wonderful student-teacher relationship.

Thank you for the opportunity to recommend Ms. Dana Saunders. I have no doubt she will be a fine educator and a gift to the future students/families who will be fortunate to work with her.

Sincerely,



Jodie Rettinhouse