

April 14, 2012

To Whom It May Concern,

Lisa Over is excellent at combining all the essential components into a great lesson plan. She employed real world examples from science and cooking as anticipatory sets. Short reviews of prior lessons were conducted. New lessons were clearly presented in organized fashion on the computerized Promethean board. Students often worked in pairs or groups during lessons. Questioning and checking for understanding occurred often. Important points were summarized and exit tickets were issued. All was accomplished in a timely fashion.

Lisa was innovative in calling upon students randomly to answer questions. One time she rolled the dice on the computer. It came up 6 and 4, so the girl sitting in row 6 seat 4 had to respond. On another day she had students toss a ball to the one they would like to see answer next. The students really liked this approach.

I liked how she used the "discovery" method to introduce the rules for exponents and for finding the pattern in squaring binomials. She would assign different groups different tasks and ask them to arrive at a conclusion from the data they were given. A group spokesperson would then have to present their findings to the class.

Lisa has a background as a technical writer and has done web design as her own boss for local authors of books for children. During student teaching she was involved in helping with anti-bullying instruction on a regular basis.

During my background of 30 years teaching including 10 years as a Math Department Chairman at South H.S. (Pittsburgh City Schools), I have observed a lot of teachers. This includes my tenure at the Schenley Teachers learning center and my recent work supervising teachers for Robert Morris University. I feel Lisa has the potential to be a fine and caring teacher. Students, their parents, and her colleagues will soon find this to be true.

Sincerely,



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