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To Whom it May Concern:

As an educator at Sultan High School, it is my absolute pleasure to advocate for Sarah Gillespie. I had the immense pleasure of teaching Sarah as a sophomore in Algebra II. After a year of consistently demonstrating her strong work ethic, eagerness to learn, and natural ability to communicate and collaborate with her peers, Sarah asked to be my peer tutor her junior year; an offer I was ecstatic to accept. Regardless of which role she was in, student or peer tutor, Sarah stood out as a role model and positive influence.

Sarah is very passionate about music and animals, and not so much math. However, that would not be obvious by observing her in a math classroom, because over all, Sarah is passionate about learning. She enjoys learning whether the topic is one of her favorites, or not. Sarah seeks out understanding and then is quick to help those around her understand as well. Not only does this make Sarah a fun person to teach, but she also brings a positive influence to the learning environment that all those around her benefit from.

Currently, Sarah is considering two different career options, Education or Veterinary Medicine. Regardless of which path she takes, patience and communication are critical skills that would be crucial to Sarah's success. In my opinion, these are two of Sarah's best strengths which she utilized frequently in my classes. As a peer tutor, Sarah did not give up when she came across a classmate who was struggling. She slowed down, explained concepts in different ways, provided new examples, expressed genuine praise, and even reported back to me if she thought the student had additional needs. As a junior in high school, Sarah had more of a positive impact on my class than most adults.

Watching Sarah in both roles, as a student and a peer tutor, has given me a unique perspective to understand how dynamic and mature this young woman is, which only reinforces my belief that she will accomplish any goals she sets for herself. As an experienced educator, I can attest that future students would be lucky to have Sarah as their teacher, as lucky as any animals under her care would be. No matter how she decides to spend her time, Sarah Gillespie will be a great addition to any class, any school, and any community; I give her my full recommendation.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Maurissa Lynch  
SHS Mathematics and AVID teacher