



Lewis & Clark Elementary School

*600 14th Street N^W
Mandan, ND 58554*

(701) 751-6505

Fax: (701) 751-6681

Susie Atkinson, Principal

Janelle Heinsohn, Administrative Secretary

Marlis Grove, Assistant Secretary

February 10, 2017

To whom it may concern,

I am privileged to write a letter of recommendation for Mandi Lynn Nelson, as she pursues her career in education. Ms. Nelson was a student teacher in my fourth-grade classroom this winter semester. She spent 8 weeks with us and established herself as a credible educator. From the first day, without hesitation, Mandi stepped right in and started working with students.

Mandi regularly evaluated the lessons she taught and revisited those that needed more attention. She was always willing to ask for support and input to improve, in fact she consistently sought out feedback. She researched ways to motivate, entice, and engage all students. Her lessons were well-presented and thoroughly planned. Her calm and reassuring demeanor established a teacher the students respected and related very well to.

Mandi's classroom management style was very consistent. She developed routines and maintained expectations through the whole time spent with us, yet mixed it up enough to keep everyone on their toes. Ms. Nelson monitored learning through quick checks like voting with your feet, spot-checking work before putting it away, and whiteboard work.

She provided a safe learning environment for all students at whatever level they were at. Mandi provided "wait time" for students needing time to process and employed a "management by walking around" type of classroom awareness. She did not spend much time in one place, but made herself always available. She also adapted to real-time changing situations, showing solid judgment and common sense.

Ms. Nelson also became a solid member of our fourth-grade team. She attended various meetings, including PTO, MEA, building and district PLC's, a school board meeting, collaborative planning, and staff meetings. She participated professionally and when she voiced her thoughts, they were well stated and insightful. Mandi was very open to collaboration and willing to share and receive ideas and constructive appraisals.

I would strongly recommend Mandi Nelson for an educator position. She will provide excellent learning opportunities and ensure student successes. Mandi will be an asset to any school district.

Sincerely,

Suzan E. Mills
Fourth Grade Teacher
Lewis and Clark Elementary
600 14th Street NW
Mandan, ND 58554