To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great honor and a bit of sadness that I am writing this letter to recommend Melissa Wilson for a teaching position at your school. Melissa joined the staff at Donnell Middle School in 2017. During her time here she has made an indelible mark on the staff and especially the students. Although she has just completed her second year of teaching, she has the natural behavior management skills of a master teacher. She takes such time and care to create lasting relationships with her students. Her relationships extend even after students have left the district. Don't let Melissa's kind and soft voice fool you. She can command a classroom. Her students are engaged and held accountable to the highest standard.

Melissa's ability to plan rigorous and exciting lessons is impressive. She definitely has no problem putting in the extra mile to research and plan. There are many nights where Melissa is the last teacher to leave the building. And, if she not here planning, it is not uncommon for her to send us materials late into the night, after she has planned during her evening hours at home. Her lessons are often multi-faceted and work well within the 21st Century framework. Modifying and accommodating also come very naturally as Melissa plans. It is the mark of a good educator when you can differentiate for the various special needs in the classroom without diminishing the effectiveness or rigor of the lesson. Melissa does this seamlessly. As a seasoned teacher, it has been refreshingly invigorating to plan with Melissa. I have gotten many new ideas and strategies during our time together.

Even though she is a busy teacher and spends much of her time out of school researching and planning, Melissa also found the time and energy to coach our middle school high jump team. Because this was a first to her, she spent hours learning the sport. Her efforts led a first time jumper to qualifying for the state meet.

When it comes to Melissa, our loss is definitely your gain. She is a standout young educator that adds to the positive culture and energy of our building.

Warm Regards,

Angela Dittman Mentor Teacher Co-Teacher

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