



OLEY VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

DANIEL E. MARKS
PRINCIPAL

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To Whom It May Concern:

It was a pleasure to have Jenna, (Miss S.) in our life skills classroom for her student teaching placement.

Jenna always used standard oral and written English when speaking and writing within the classroom. She used appropriate voice qualities when working with the students. She varied her tone of voice when reading stories and doing fun activities and instruction with the students. While disciplining the students, she was able to change her tone of voice to attract the student's attention and they responded appropriately.

Miss S. created a pleasurable atmosphere with her presence and lessons in our life skills classroom. She demonstrated good classroom organization of our materials. Over the time Jenna was here she developed a positive rapport with each student. The students enjoyed working with her and were actively involved in her lessons and activities. When needed Jenna was able to use effective discipline strategies that are currently in place in the classroom. She uses an appropriate tone of voice and was open to suggestions on using these strategies and then put the ideas into action. Miss S. was very aware of the diversity among the students and was able to incorporate this knowledge into her lessons by adapting the practice and assessment components of the lessons and activities.

Jenna planned effective and appropriate lessons with the students and was able to meet their needs and ability levels in the lessons. She was very enthusiastic in delivering her lessons and it was evident the student's picked up on her excitement and were equally excited. Miss S. used a variety of teaching strategies by using visuals, picture books, hands-on materials, and communication devices to encourage the students' interaction. Jenna attended inclusion classes with the students and worked with the regular ed teacher to adapt activities, quizzes, and tests.

Miss S. has been very professional. She reflected on her performance through a journal and discussion with me and the paraprofessionals. She carefully planned her lessons and activities. She displayed a strong work ethic and took initiative in the classroom. She demonstrated self confidence and a strong desire to do what was best for each student. She was willing and eager to attend special ed department and staff meetings, IEP meetings, and became familiar with the faculty and staff. She witnessed how everyone in the school works together to meet the needs of the students.

Jenna had the opportunity to vary her experience beyond the academics in our life skills classroom. She has also assisted in helping the students on Community Based Instruction trips and worked with the students on their goals while out in the community. Miss S. also assisted in classroom duties such as practicing and assessing IEP goals, inclusion classes, going to the library, cooking, and attending an IEP meeting. These experiences added to Jenna's overall learning experience in our life skills classroom.

It has been a pleasure to have Jenna in our classroom and watch her grow in her profession. She will be a great asset to any school community. Please contact me if you wish to further discuss Jenna's experience in my classroom.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jennifer Bechtel
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