## MICHIGAN STATE

April 10, 2013

Dear Educator;

This letter is written to recommend Stephanie Scheldt for your consideration as an elementary or middle school teacher candidate. Stephanie has been enrolled in a year-long internship as a fifth year student in the school of education at MSU. Her internship setting was as a 3rd grade teacher at Lakeside Elementary School in Muskegon.

Lakeside is a large urban school spanning grades K-6. It's population is ethnically and socioeconomically diverse. Lakeside was opened this school year as a result of the consolidation of several smaller elementary schools. Stephanie's mentor teacher, Mrs. Tresa Northuis is a master teacher who has trained several student interns for MSU at another Muskegon public school.

As a former elementary school principal with almost twenty years of experience, I have had the opportunity to hire and mentor many young educators. Miss Scheldt is an outstanding candidate. Among her many strengths are the ability to manage a diverse classroom environment and teach at a high level of student engagement. Stephanie utilizes a wide variety of student participation structures with a focus on individual student achievement. She possesses strong written and verbal communication skills. Lessons are well–planned, comprehensive and creative. Expectations and directions are clearly stated. Learning objectives are presented in a meaningful, engaging way. Assessment of student learning is frequent and varied with lessons modified or adjusted based on learner feedback.

Stephanie exhibits a maturity, insight and skill set that belie her status as a novice teacher. She presents as professional and polished. She is committed to leading a successful classroom based on high expectations "in a safe, encouraging, and self-motivated environment...to provide the best I can for every student, every day".

Stephanie Scheldt has my highest endorsement to teach at any grade level or subject level for which she is qualified. She will be an asset to the teaching profession and the families she serves.

You are welcome to contact me if you have any questions or would like to speak with me regarding Stephanie's qualifications. I can be reached at <u>marylkeeton@gmail.com</u> or 1-616-844-8808.

Sincerely, Mary L. Keeton Field Instructor



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