



HARBOR CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT

6375 Buffalo Road, Harborcreek, Pennsylvania 16421-1632
www.hcsd.iu5.org

February 7, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is in reference to Mrs. Jennifer Penfield. I worked with Mrs. Penfield during the 2010-2011 school year, as she taught fifth grade with me during the first semester of the school year.

While she was at Klein, Mrs. Penfield demonstrated a deep understanding of the curriculum by creating and implementing guided reading, writer's workshop, and science lessons that engaged and motivated students. She created meaningful and purposeful lessons that aligned with the curriculum. Not only was Mrs. Penfield knowledgeable of the curriculum, she also related well with the students. She took the time to get to know each of our fifty-three fifth graders individually. Science quickly became one of their favorite subjects! Additionally, Mrs. Penfield became an influential member of our fifth grade team! She was always willing to co-plan lessons and to share resources.

In addition to that, Mrs. Penfield spearheaded a service project with the fifth grade. She took a new approach to Persuasive Writing Unit by submitting the students' persuasive letters to Macy's in hopes to fundraising money for Make-A-Wish. She also coordinated a fifth grade penny drive to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. This drive was in place of our usual student gift exchange. At the conclusion of the unit of study, Mrs. Penfield invited Jan Stork, Regional Director of the Foundation, to discuss the importance of the charity with our students as well as to share experiences that Wish children received. Lastly, Mrs. Penfield took the initiative to invite the fifth grade parents in for an author's tea and to listen to their children's persuasive letters!

Mrs. Penfield showed exemplary levels of teaching while at Klein. She was always prepared, on time, and dressed professionally. She is very knowledgeable of the fifth grade curriculum and shows a strong understanding of these concepts by successfully teaching each subject area. Mrs. Penfield had the opportunity to instruct students as a whole group, interact with small groups, and conference one-on-one with students. She was very comfortable and at ease in each of these environments, thus making her very capable to teach in a variety of settings.

I can think of no better candidate than Mrs. Jennifer Penfield to employ in your school district. She is a dynamic, knowledgeable, and hard-working teacher. I can assure you that she will become an integral teacher among your staff. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Respectfully,

Miss Amanda Blackhurst

Miss Amanda Blackhurst
5th Grade Classroom Teacher
Klein Elementary School
814-897-2100 x4304
ablackhurst@hcsd.iu5.org

Administration Phone: 814 897-2100 Fax: 814 897-2142
High School Phone: 814 897-2100 Fax: 814 897-2136
Jr. High School Phone: 814 897-2100 Fax: 814 897-2121

Clark Phone: 814 897-2100 Fax: 814 897-8723
Klein Phone: 814 897-2100 Fax: 814 898-0225
Rolling Ridge Phone: 814 897-2100 Fax: 814 898-1916