



March 16, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to recommend Joseph Wright, a graduating student in the McKay School of Education, Teaching English Language Learners (TELL) program at Brigham Young University. I have had the opportunity to be his professor for two courses concerning literacy/language and content-based language in dual-language immersion sites. I have multiple years of teaching pre-service teachers and ELL courses at the UofU, UNLV, ISU, and currently at BYU. I have had first hand experience in observing Joe in BYU courses and public classrooms. I would rank him as an exceptional student in his academic and professional performances.

Joe has proven to be a dependable contributor to our courses. He consistently comes prepared, is aware of issues extending beyond the assignments, and demonstrates a level of curiosity and creativity that benefits other students in the course. He has an exceptional ability to collaborate with others. He is not hesitant to work with English Learners and is also fluent in meeting the needs of Spanish and Portuguese speakers. His academic knowledge of ELL and bilingual issues is sound and his ability to develop lesson plans to meet diversity needs of individuals is strong for a pre-service / beginning teacher.

Beyond Joe's academic abilities, he also demonstrates a high level of professionalism in his conduct and displays passion in his efforts to assist minority language students. He demonstrates a high level of patience, empathy, and commitment – extremely important qualities for teachers in general and for those working with ELLs.

Overall, I strongly recommend Joseph Wright for a teaching position. I would rank him in the top five percent of all my experience with pre-service teachers. Being a new teacher, he has limited experience, but I know he is someone that will work hard to learn what areas of improvement he needs to make. He readily listens, willingly accepts advice, and will be a valuable asset to his future school employer.

Please feel free to contact me with any other questions or concerns,

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