



EDINBORO UNIVERSITY
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To whom it may concern:

I am writing this recommendation on behalf of John Halmi. I first came in contact with him as a student in the General Instructional Techniques in Mathematics course. As a non-traditional student, he was simultaneously working on certification and a masters in Middle and Secondary Education. John did an excellent job in both the projects and instructional aspects of the course. He was very organized and was able to pace himself well along with the demands of his other courses of study in the professional block. All work was done on time and in a professional manner. As his student teaching supervisor, I can attest to his ability to handle a variety of teaching situations that occurred throughout his student teaching experience.

John displayed many very positive teacher characteristics in both instruction and professional responsibilities from the very beginning of the student teaching process. He is, without a doubt, one of the top math teacher candidates I have worked with in education. By the end of the second placement, John displayed characteristics of a veteran teacher in both teaching pedagogy and classroom management. He was always punctual in attendance and in the submission of lesson plans to the cooperating teacher. He developed several demonstrations and ways of involving students in the learning process utilizing the approach of the CEPT_PA guidelines for teaching science and math. He took many of the suggestions of the cooperating teacher and incorporated them into his teaching.

Throughout the student teaching experience, John brought more and more variety into his teaching strategies. Along with a solid hands-on approach with smooth transitions, he developed a more concise, less time consuming methodology for going over homework, making the homework a genuine learning experience. His relationship with students was very good even attending several student functions after school hours. Students were very comfortable with John's style of teaching and management style. His involvement in acting at a local dinner theatre spilled over in his teaching. His animated style and enthusiasm enabled him to establish a respect and rapport that was motivating to the students. He has a balanced approach to classroom control which he has been able to use with consistency. This has made his teaching very effective.

John went beyond his requirements especially in working with the teachers in his area. His command of the content enables him to teach beyond the curriculum and do so without the aid of additional notes or resources as he is teaching. He is respected by those that taught with him. All responsibilities associated with the student teaching process, such as lesson and unit planning, planned observations and write-ups, after lesson reflections and weekly analysis were always done in a timely manner and beyond expectations.

I highly recommend John for a teaching position in mathematics. He will be a tremendous asset to any educational institution. If I can be of further assistance, please contact me anytime.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dennis E. Buckwalter
Associate Professor