

June 12, 2007

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of Joel Tremblay, who is both my good friend and colleague. I have had the pleasure on multiple occasions to witness Joel in the classroom. In both the secondary and elementary setting, Joel has the ability to capture his students' attention and motivate their creativity.

Since Joel is an artist himself, his units' express thought provoking concepts, but still emphasize the skill in producing high quality work. For example, during his practicum at Prince of Wales Secondary, Joel instructed a photography unit that challenged his students' perceptions of beauty and encouraged them to think outside the box. Joel produced lessons and assessment strategies that would push them intellectually while enforcing the importance of mastering photographic techniques.

Joel has a confident yet approachable presence in the classroom that sets a tone of respect between teacher and student. He is always readily available to assist students during class time and after school. Joel has a genially caring nature that helped him build meaningful relationships with his students which in turn formed open lines of communication.

Joel's main aim is for teaching secondary, but he can easily make the transition into elementary. He is expressive and interactive in an elementary classroom as the students are completely intrigued by his energy. I have witnessed Joel teach a kindergarten class at University Hill Elementary where he instructed a lesson on creating art works with materials from nature. Joel sparked each student's imagination with his descriptive and enthusiastic instruction.

In summary, Joel is a very professional and dedicated teacher. He works to make his classes interesting, challenging and enjoyable for his students. Teaching comes very naturally to Joel, and coupled with much talent and passion for art, he will make an outstanding teacher and an asset to any school.

If you require any further information or have any questions please feel free to contact me at (Phone number available upon request)

Sincerely,



Laura Masi (Email address available upon request)