



**Whitney M. Young Magnet High School**  
U.S. Department of Education / *Blue Ribbon School*



211 South Laffin Street • Chicago, Illinois 60607  
Telephone 773.534.7500 • Fax 773.534.7261 • TTY 773.534.7528

Joyce D. Kenner, Ed.D.  
Principal

Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to inform you about the qualities and talent of Melissa McBride. Melissa has very successfully completed her student teaching experience at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School in Chicago, Illinois. Melissa was responsible for observing, assisting, and teaching in my Honors Drawing and Painting classes. Melissa's warm personality and rapport with the students were excellent. During the semester, Melissa McBride took responsibility for three classes and assumed the duties of planning and teaching an entire unit. Because of her creativity and enthusiasm for the subject, students responded positively to her lessons. Her ability to manage a daily routine and the classroom discipline that relates to that were exemplary.

Melissa's willingness to take suggestions, modify lessons, and experiment with new strategies demonstrated her motivation and reflection about teaching and learning. Melissa was able to communicate effectively and she displayed many fine personal and professional qualities normally attributed to outstanding teachers. Melissa McBride has shown a true sense of professionalism. Punctuality, sincerity, and dedication were evident in her daily work. The same standard was evident throughout her experience.

Melissa's lessons continue to be well thought out and showed a wide variety of art and art making centered activities to meet the many needs of different learning styles within the classroom. Melissa's lessons also demonstrated confidence in her ability to have all students be successful learners and participants, which promoted self-confidence and a higher level of self-esteem in her students. Her kind and gentle way with the students provided a safe environment for all to learn. Melissa's communication skills, both with students, supervising teacher, staff and parents were excellent. Lessons were delivered with directions being clear and concise. Students were comfortable seeking out Melissa for additional help, which she gave readily.

I felt Melissa was able to communicate with me on a professional level as well as a personable level. This made our working relationship very comfortable. Melissa would not hesitate to ask questions and was very accepting of constructive feedback and applied suggestions readily. I have truly enjoyed supervising and watching Melissa mature in her teaching ability. And so it is without hesitation, and my personal opinion, that Melissa McBride will be an outstanding addition to any school faculty. Her dedication to art education, her outstanding organizational skills, and her exemplary teaching ability, leads me to believe that Melissa McBride has the dedication and knowledge to be a successful teacher and will have much to offer the teaching profession.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Thomas Gorisch  
Visual Arts Instructor  
Whitney M. Young Magnet High School