

February 7, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Greetings. I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Chris Wondra for the Communications Instructor position at WITC. It is with honor and yet regret that I write this letter as it may mean we will lose a vital member of our middle school faculty. It is with certainty that Chris is a qualified candidate for the position and would be an asset to your faculty. He is a highly respected and committed member of our teaching staff, one who relates well to students, other staff members, parents, and our community. He is ambitious, organized, and possesses true leadership skills.

As a special education teacher at the St. Croix Falls Middle School, I have had the privilege to work with Chris over the past ten years. Recently, we have collaborated as co-teachers in his eighth grade language arts classes. Chris and I have worked closely developing accommodations, modifications, and meaningful lesson goals for the variety of learners in his classroom. His openness to meet the challenges of diverse learners and to accommodate for their success is outstanding. He welcomes all students' participation and makes individuals feel they are an important resource to the whole group.

In addition to his teaching duties, Chris has also served as the leader of our Professional Learning Community (PLC) for the past three years. During this time, Chris has shown the utmost professionalism in the classroom as well as in curriculum and professional development meetings. He has often brought new and innovative real world ideas to his colleagues and spends countless hours looking for and reading about changes in the language arts curriculum and how he can use them within his four walls. He has also shared many of these ideas with our group and how they can be infused into the other curricular areas. In addition, Chris has gone beyond the classroom to share these ideas with the community on his educational website, *We Teach We Learn* and in a local weekly newspaper article.

Chris strives everyday to make learning exciting and rewarding for his students. Through his varied and well thought out lessons, he meets the demands of all students he comes in contact with. In his classroom, Chris sets clear expectations, provides meaningful up to date examples, exhibits a variety of teaching approaches, and demands quality work. His understanding of language arts in the real world makes his ability to teach it in school refreshing and new. His knowledge of technology is a valuable resource and one that is utilized often by other staff members. His willingness to help as a "team player" is invaluable. Chris has the unique ability to see obstacles from the "big picture" standpoint first, and then assess smaller solutions to solve the overall larger problem.

In closing, for the numerous reasons I have stated, it is with utmost sincerity that I highly recommend Chris Wondra for the Communications Instructor position at WITC in Rice Lake. I am confident in saying that the assets he possesses would greatly benefit your faculty and the students he teaches. If you would like to further discuss this matter, please contact me at the St. Croix Falls School District.

Sincerely,

Chris Nelson
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