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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter to recommend Elizabeth Bryant-Richards as a creative, sensitive and intelligent elementary school teacher. Beth showed much professionalism and dedication as she completed her student teaching experience in my fourth grade classroom in Glencoe, Illinois during the spring term of 2012.

Beth started her student teaching experience by developing warm and caring relationships with the students. They came to trust her, ask for her help, and look positively for her attention.

Elizabeth's creativity brought about exciting projects and units that were motivating to students and illustrated their learning. She created a unit to study figurative language and poetry. With each type of figurative language she taught, she provided a variety of visual, and audio exposures of that type of language. With Mrs. Bryant's guidance and care, each student created a portfolio of a wide range of poetic forms. Mrs. Bryant met individually with each student to positively discuss the progress that each of them accomplished in their creation of poetry.

Beth showed many strengths as an elementary classroom teacher. She is creative and flexible. While she worked within the fairly rigid curriculum of our school district, she created an adjustment to the spelling program to incorporate more word study and differentiation for the more advanced students. There were times, sometimes during the teaching of a lesson, Beth perceived that an activity was not going in the direction that had been planned, and she calmly adjusted the lesson as best she could to achieve a desired and educationally sound outcome.

Elizabeth often reinforced her teaching through interdisciplinary connections, and through visual and tangible displays and objects to reinforce students' understanding. For example, during a Social Studies

lesson about rationing during World War II, Mrs. Bryant brought food stamps, and soldiers' food rations for the students to see and smell.

Beth reinforced her teaching of reading by recounting to the students her own personal connections to the content, enriching the reading experience, and modeling for the students the making of connections that enforces comprehension and adds enjoyment to reading. Beth's love of reading was transferred to the students through her joyous and inspiring exposure to them of a variety of genres, and her successful implementation of a focused and quiet free-choice reading time that she built into the school day.

I felt fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with Elizabeth Bryant-Richards and watch her grow this spring. I recommend her for an elementary teaching position, and feel that whatever school is able to hire her, their staff will be strengthened by adding such a creative and caring teacher.

Sincerely,

Robin Reser Martens