

West Cary Middle School

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CARY, NORTH CAROLINA 27513
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To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to be writing this letter of recommendation for Brad Zdenek. I have known the applicant for approximately three years. During that time, I have related to Brad as a fellow middle school teacher, as a fellow traveler on an educational tour to Europe with students, and as a valuable friend.

Performance as a Professional:

Brad has an incredibly high work ethic. He also has high expectations for himself and his students. I have observed him in the literal classroom setting and the global classroom setting. In both situations students and adults seem to be mesmerized by his way of sharing his wisdom and experience. They seem eager to learn more from him. Not only does Brad have an enormous wealth of knowledge and experiences to share, but he is also able to instill the desire in others to continue their learning process which is a skill many teachers strive for years to acquire. Brad constantly used the new technology available to present and discuss topics in his curriculum when teaching at West Cary Middle School. He spent countless hours with students on fun and creative projects to emphasize certain aspects of his lessons. For example, when he was doing a unit on Africa, Brad had the students work in groups. Within these groups the students came up with different skits to present to the whole student body and West Cary Middle School community to explore the culture of African people. They did story-telling, which included audience participation, and played musical instruments known to that region. The students enjoyed it and learned a lot about Africa in a creative way. Brad approaches all of his work as a professional whether the duty itself is so defined. I have always found him to be prepared, prompt, thorough, and passionate in his work. He truly is an inspiration to all he comes in contact with. He is an educator who other teachers seek advice from. Students, teachers, and administrators alike respect him and his work.

Jennifer Cheek Barnett