

To Whom it May Concern:

I had the pleasure and good fortune to be placed as a student teacher in the Kindergarten classroom of Kate Quist in the Comstock Park School District. Throughout the 2001-02 school year, I had the opportunity to witness Kate interact professionally with peers, students, and parents.

Kate demonstrated exceptional organization and detailed lessons that met the needs of each individual learner. During this time, I observed her thorough integration of age appropriate standards and curriculum. Students were always engaged in lessons that allowed them to explore their learning styles in a variety of center based activities. It was apparent that she had a good understanding of the needs of the early childhood student.

The classroom environment of Mrs. Quist was a safe and comfortable place for students to take risks and grow as individuals. She maintained a balance of encouragement and accountability, which allowed the students to reach their greatest potential. Her creative and enthusiastic approach to teaching created a fun-loving, contagious attitude in her classroom.

I observed Kate regularly spending long hours, nights and weekends, preparing lessons and creating and organizing materials. Her work ethic was apparent through her drive to provide an educational experience above and beyond average.

There are many other qualities and characteristics that Mrs. Quist possesses, which enable her to be an effective teacher. The students and families benefited from having the opportunity of being a part of her classroom. I also benefited by learning the qualities of a true professional.

Sincerely,

Ben Jewell 6th Grade Science Teacher, Baldwin Street Middle School Hudsonville Public Schools