

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It is with extreme pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Suzanne Ferguson. Suzanne joined our staff in the fall of 2002, the year that she graduated from the University of Wisconsin. Her main responsibility was to teach upper level mathematics (Pre-Calculus, and Calculus AB & BC) to our students here at Wayland Academy. In the beginning she struggled to keep up with everything that was required here at Wayland. There was dorm duty, chaperone duty, faculty meetings, athletics, and her five-class teaching load. This was a huge responsibility that even takes a toll on seasoned teachers.

From the day that I first met Suzanne it was very obvious to me that she was a very talented person and that with greater maturity and experience she would become a great teacher. As I watched her progress throughout her two years at Wayland I saw continued improvement with each passing day. Her understanding of the concepts was her strong point. Because of her total understanding of the concepts that were being taught in the classes that she had, she could present a solution to a problem in many different ways. It did not take the students long to realize what a hidden treasure she was. This was also a detriment at times, as it made it more difficult for her to realize why some of the students would struggle with the concepts.

In addition to a heavy teaching load, Suzanne was a dormitory proctor, was involved in the athletic program, had weekend supervisory duties, ran extra help sessions during her free hours for those students that had questions outside of the class, and did many other things that were a part of teaching in a private boarding school. Whenever Suzanne was called on to do something, she was willing to give it his best effort.

As the Chairman of the Mathematics department I found her to be very responsive to our needs. She was always available for department meetings, was willing to attend workshops and conferences in order to stay abreast of the current information in teaching of mathematics, and was willing to share her ideas with other members of the department.

Suzanne's interest in people translates to her life and work. Suzanne has the ability to help young people help themselves, largely because they know that she is interested in them and their learning.

The talent and enthusiasm that I saw in Suzanne's first two years of teaching should have set a solid foundation for future work. I know that she has done some teaching and tutoring since leaving Wayland and now wants to enter into a full time teaching position. I have since retired from Wayland but feel that if I had a chance to hire Suzanne I would. She is a very talented young lady and would be a fine addition to any faculty.

Sincerely,

David W. Kasper
Retired Chairman, Mathematics
Department