To Whom This May Concern:

I am honored to be able to offer my recommendation of Jessica Alsayegh, who has been our pod school teacher for the past academic year (2020-2021).

As I realized the covid-19 pandemic would extend well into the school year, I organized five neighborhood families into a pre-kindergarten pod. We interviewed numerous teachers before speaking with Jessica. She made a positive impression from the beginning and we are so glad we made the decision to hire her, because she exceeded every hope and expectation we had for a teacher.

Jessica planned lessons and activities based off state standards that were both engaging and interactive. Best, she communicated the lesson plans each week, so parents could reinforce the instruction at home and be involved in what the kids were learning in school. She included detailed schedules, like what books were being read and what skills were being utilized, as well as pictures from the previous week, in efforts to keep parents informed.

Because our pod was composed of children with various backgrounds and skill levels, Jessica differentiated her instructions to meet individual needs. The kids were often grouped for various activities such that they were either working on something with peers or were helping others with a topic. This allowed each child to learn at their own pace while continually being challenged by the other students. The members brought their own unique strengths to the pod, which only enhanced the experience for everyone since they were encouraged to learn from each other.

There are two aspects of Jessica’s personality and teaching approach that I feel define her best and are the foundation for why I would recommend her for any teaching position. First, Jessica is naturally so kind and compassionate, that all kids are instantly comfortable around her. While Jessica of course has class rules and enforces respects for all other students, she is so loving and patient with her students that they trust her inherently. Second, she simply makes learning fun. My daughter was a timid reader when she entered the pod, but, under Jessica’s guidance, came home every day with new reading games that she couldn’t wait to tackle.

All of the kids grew exponentially in terms of academics and blossomed socially and emotionally during the school year. There is no greater testament to Jessica’s teaching and guidance.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Alison Coughlin