



**SCHUYLKILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGH SCHOOL**

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Superintendent of Schools
Professional Staff Selection Committee

Dear Sirs:

I wish to highly and enthusiastically recommend Brittany T. Scott to fill a chemistry teaching position for your school district. Brittany served an interim Early Field Experience with me from January 5 through January 19, 2016 and has been my student teacher since January 22, 2016. Her tenure in my classroom has been a positive experience for my students, other school staff, Brittany, and me. She has exhibited a professional and pragmatic demeanor from the first day we met; she understands the role of the modern science educator and does her absolute best to meet the high expectations she sets for herself. From the beginning of her time in my classroom, Brittany was eager to work with students individually and in small groups; as time proceeded she taught some short lessons before she officially was a student teacher—she was ready to go! Many other Early Field students in my past experience were content to observe and interact a little (in some cases as little as possible) with my students, but Brittany enthusiastically wanted to work with students as soon as possible. She definitely “went the extra mile” prior to her student teaching. She transmitted her enthusiasm and knowledge about the subject matter to the students, provided individual and supplemental attention to students I was teaching, and built rapport with staff and students quickly. Due to the positive influence Brittany had on my students I was extremely pleased that she was going to stay on as my student teacher.

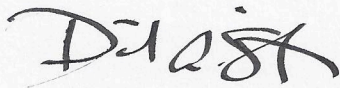
During her tenure as a student teacher Brittany has been instructing two Chemistry Honors and my Advanced Placement Chemistry classes as well as organizing, overseeing and evaluating the laboratory segments of all of my classes. She definitely has continued to give one hundred percent throughout her time in my classroom. Her work ethic is second to none. I challenge her on a daily basis to develop activities, lessons, lab experiments—and she always goes well beyond what I request. Brittany prepares detailed lesson plans (being cognizant of Pennsylvania’s standards), lessons including her usage of classroom computers, utilizes online programs such as Flippity, the interactive whiteboard, and also facilitates laboratory experiments, both large and microscale in scope. She spends a great deal of time outside of the school day preparing to be successful in her tenure with us at Schuylkill Valley. High school chemistry teaching is one of the most challenging educational disciplines to master, balancing the theoretical sections of the science along with supplementary hands-on laboratory experiences,

while at the same time, doing one's best to help students to become successful in their studies and staying current with the necessary day-to-day assessments and paperwork. I expect this of pre-service teachers, and in all regards Brittany has succeeded admirably. I can honestly say that I need to give her very little guidance and advice--Brittany knows what she is doing! We collaborate a great deal, bouncing ideas off of each other more as colleagues than as a student teacher and cooperating mentor. She has a great working and practical knowledge of chemistry and educational methods; she is very well prepared to begin her teaching career. Brittany has earned the respect of my students and has built positive rapport with them; she runs a relaxed but respectful classroom where students are not reticent to ask questions or seek additional information. She is patiently open to such experiences, and has been very effective in her efforts. Again, Brittany has built great relationships with quite a number of the members of our "school family." She definitely makes a great impression on everyone she meets in our building.

For these above reasons and for quite a few more intrinsic ones I wholeheartedly recommend Brittany T. Scott for a science teaching position. As the Science Chair for my school district I regret that I do not have an open teaching slot for her to fill; I would hire her in an instant. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information. Again, please give her your strongest consideration. She will be a positive asset to your school...she's a gem!

Feel free to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,



Mr. David A. Smith
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