



Ypsilanti Middle School

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To Whom it May Concern:

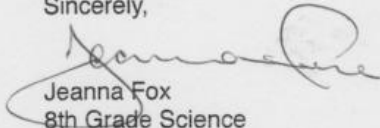
I have been the co-operating teacher for Joe Jakcsy during his time as student teacher at Ypsilanti Middle School. I have had many student teachers over my 15 years as a science teacher and I am able to recommend Joe to you for employment without any reservations.

Joe is the most organized, prepared and metacognitive student teacher I have ever had the pleasure to work with. His lessons not only demonstrate a mastery of the subject matter and of how to break down material for the students, but also an understanding of the hierarchy of the outcomes. Placing just the right amount of time and emphasis on the most important of the key concepts, while exploring parallel ideas and real-life issues, Joe successfully developed and taught a unit on Newtonian Physics. Joe asks very pointed questions about my own thinking/teaching and generated many good discussions between us about the process of teaching. Joe genuinely sought input from fellow teachers and our whole team appreciated his easy-going and flexible attitude during our team meetings. He continuously critiques his work through student progress, student understanding and reflection. Joe used pre and post test data, test, quizzes and formative assessments to check for understanding from the students.

What makes Joe Jakcsy a particularly good candidate for hire is his true caring and gentle nature. Joe seeks out students who are having "a bad day" and lends an ear or a pat on the back. He encourages his students to make good choices and shares with them his own experiences. Although Joe's own childhood looked different from that of our at-risk population, He deliberately chooses to work with students in that demographic because of his personal convictions and earnest desire to make a real difference.

I am extremely proud to call Joe Jakcsy a colleague in the teaching profession and would think any school lucky to have him. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Jeanna Fox
8th Grade Science
Ypsilanti Middle School