

June 1, 2015

Neil Daly
Saint John the Baptist School
350 Emery Street
Longmont, CO 80501

RE: Letter of Recommendation

To Whom It May Concern:

During the 2014-2015 School Year, Mr. Neil Daly taught third grade at St. John the Baptist School here in Longmont, CO. My son attended his class.

This year was exceptional as far as school goes for my young son. He has a September 2006 birthday, so he is the youngest in the grade with some of his classmates being more than an entire year older than him. He has been challenged in years past due to being so much younger than the other students. Many of his past teachers at St. John's have been extra hard on him for not keeping up with the older children, even though he is above average in intelligence. They commented that his reading and handwriting skills were lacking which caused him to have some considerable confidence issues. These confidence issues caused him further challenges. He was reluctant to do his school work at times for fear that it would not be right. He is a true people pleaser, and thus, it was hard for him when his previous teachers criticized his best efforts. He was beginning to become a bit disengaged with school, which was cause for great concern with us. Prior to coming to St. John's, my son had flourished in school.

All our concerns were laid to rest thanks to Mr. Daly's kind and compassionate teaching style this year. Mr. Daly truly cares about his students and wants them to succeed by doing their best work. He understands how to balance patience and understanding with accountability for all of his students. Mr. Daly makes learning fun and is able to engage all the students in his class by connecting with them. He relates to his students on a very personal level and is so supportive of all they do and try. In addition to his classroom support, Mr. Daly made a point to go to both the boys' and girls' sporting events to show his students how much they mean to him. The kids absolutely adore Mr. Daly, and also, respect him very much.

With the encouraging environment that Mr. Daly provided this year, my son now loves to read and is reading at or above grade level. His handwriting is outstanding, and best of all, he loves going to school! We could not have hoped for or asked for anything more.

On another note, the class this year had several boisterous and rambunctious children. Mr. Daly has strong classroom management skills when it comes to handling such a class. He put a wonderful system in place at the beginning of the year to keep peace and order a constant condition in his classroom. The system was very efficient, and the kids quickly learned how to easily follow it. The children appreciated the boundaries that he set, and they all felt very safe in his class. Mr. Daly communicated weekly with the parents about the performance of their child with regard to this system. It worked beautifully!

In summary, Mr. Daly is kind, compassionate, engaging, forthright and patient, and also has strong classroom management skills. I highly recommend Mr. Daly to any school looking for an outstanding teacher that will compassionately listen to and engage their students. Please feel free to contact me, if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Christine Cavalier
Broker Associate/Partner
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Mary Wellems
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May 8, 2014

To Whom It May Concern,


It is with pleasure that I strongly recommend Neil Daly as a candidate for a teaching position at your school. I am the Assistant Principal and Athletic Director at St. John the Baptist Catholic School where Mr. Daly is a 6th grade teacher. Neil teaches 6th grade math and religion as well as 7th grade literature and writing.

Neil has been a tremendous asset at St. John's. Throughout the year he has demonstrated an aptitude for effective lesson planning and an ability to motivate his students. He prepares detailed plans for each lesson that include learning objectives gathered directly from the Denver Catholic Schools Curriculum. The environment of Neil's classroom is orderly yet comfortable. He effectively utilizes numerous techniques to ensure that his students are happy and excited about learning. In fact, the "Viking Dough" he created was such a hit with the students, I had him create "Volleyball Edition" for me to use with my girls' team!

One of Neil's greatest assets is his technological expertise. Soon after he started at St. John's Neil identified a need for a simpler tracking system for lunch orders than with paper and pencil. So he programmed Excel to automatically record lunch orders, track balances, and email parents when a student's lunch balance gets low. It worked so well it is now used by all teachers throughout the school. Not surprisingly, Neil uses technology in the classroom on a regular basis. For example, he utilizes the SmartBoard in his classroom every day for virtually every lesson. He regularly uses Microsoft Publisher to create worksheets and other learning materials customized to the needs of his students. He has created numerous PowerPoint presentations that significantly enhance his lessons.

Neil's rapport with students, parents, and teachers and his involvement in the St. John's community is also exceptional. Within the first week of school he informed me that he'd like to volunteer as a coach for one of the St. John's athletic teams. I asked him to coach one of our girls' basketball teams. His ability to motivate and connect with children was apparent as his team improved steadily throughout the season. In addition to volunteering as a coach, Neil chaperoned middle school dances, bussed tables at the St. John's Lenten Fish Fry, cashiered at the schools' annual Spring Auction, and helped out at numerous other St. John's events.

Although I am hopeful that Neil will stay at St. John's, I understand his interest in pursuing other options and without hesitation I recommend Neil for a teaching position at your school. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mary Wellems
Assistant Principal
St. John the Baptist Catholic School

September 21, 2011

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing in regards to **Neil Daly** who is seeking a teaching position in your school district. As Director of the Master of Arts in Education Program at Regis University, I knew Neil as a graduate student in 2004-2006. He was consistent in his student-centered teaching philosophy and his emphasis on the importance of actively engaging students in their learning tasks.

At his capstone presentation, Neil demonstrated that he was a dedicated teacher and lifelong learner who strived to meet the needs of his students using creative and relevant instructional methods. Neil felt strongly about working **with** students to build community and involving parents in the education process.

Neil's passion for teaching was evident and I know that he greatly desires to continue serving the school community. I recommend that Neil be highly considered for a teaching position in which he can demonstrate his abilities and commitment as a teacher.

Please contact me at 303-458-4388 if I can provide further information or clarification.

Sincerely,



Kathy Nutting
Director, MAE
Regis University

September 3, 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is with pleasure that I recommend Mr. Neil Daly for a teaching position. My son, now a sophomore in high school, had Mr. Daly during his fourth grade year at Dutch Creek Elementary and I have consistently thought of and spoken about that as one of the best educational experiences we have had in public schools.

I have been an active classroom volunteer and PTA member, including chairing multiple committees and serving as PTA vice-president and president at Dutch Creek, as well as serving at the County level as the Reflections Chair and legislative liaison for the Columbine area.

Through this involvement in schools and my children's education, I've been privileged to be able to interact with and observe many teachers and to assess both the positives and negatives of our education system. I can say unreservedly that Neil has always stood out to me as a positive asset.

Part of what makes him an asset is his unique teaching style. In time and through many conversations with him I came to greatly appreciate his teaching methods. No other teacher my kids have had has been able to articulate to me a specific teaching philosophy to which they adhere. Mr. Daly not only did this, but gave me a book to read to better understand it. Through this, I grew to understand that his teaching success does not rely on outside standards, but on an ability to create an atmosphere where students have the freedom to develop personal responsibility and to grow without undue criticism or control. Over the course of my son's fourth grade year, I became aware that I never heard Mr. Daly speak to his students in a way that put them down. The students in his room had an ease in his presence and seemed confident that he valued and respected them.

The result of this relationship, at least as far as my own son was concerned, was that my son came out of Mr. Daly's class with a tremendous sense of self-confidence and ability to self-direct. His third grade year had been trial; it was difficult to motivate him to go to school, we struggled over homework, assignments were hidden from us and not turned in, and he brought his first "F" home on a report card. I cannot exaggerate the difference we saw in him over the course of his fourth grade year. By the time he left Mr. Daly's class he was getting himself to school on time every day, his grades were good and his homework done, all without parental interference. He has maintained this level of motivation through high school, where he has now been accepted into the International Baccalaureate program.

Part of Mr. Daly's process in developing self-direction was a system of rewards; students earned "Daly Dough" through positive behavior which they could redeem for rewards. The one

time that my son received a "punishment" in Mr. Daly's class, he was required to complete a writing assignment, the length of which corresponded to the severity of the infraction through a system that, though I couldn't decipher it, was clearly understood and respected by my son.

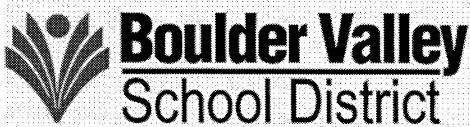
Mr. Daly's involvement in Dutch Creek was nearly unparalleled. In the five years I had students at Dutch Creek, he was consistently the most involved in PTA and parent-led projects. He headed up Student Leadership, ran the Science Fair, attended every Skate Night and Community Event, and served on both PTA and Accountability teams. During a year where relations between the school and community became strained, he and another teacher put together a Carnival for the whole school that had a huge positive impact. He has held talent shows for the students in his class and does the "Daly News" where the students report on the goings-on in the school. He started and ran the Intramural Basketball program, and acted as the teacher contact for the student newsletter. Mr. Daly makes himself very available to parents, both by welcoming us into his class and by providing numerous ways to contact him if needed. He has a dedication to his school and the students that I simply haven't seen in most other teachers.

Please feel free to contact me at any time and thank you for both your attention to this letter and your dedication to public schools and our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angelica M. Switzer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Angelica M. Switzer
303.904.4223
amms7681@msn.com



Nederland Elementary School
#1 North Sundown Trail
Nederland, Colorado 80466
(720)561-4800
(720)561-5575

Jeffrey Miller
Principal

Date: April 8, 2012

From: Kimberlee M. Sorrell *Kimberlee Sorrell*
Grade 3 Teacher
Nederland Elementary School
(720) 561-4827 or (303) 886-9906

To: Human Resources Department
Re: Mr. Neil Daly

To Whom It May Concern:

During the 2011-2012 school year, I have had the privilege of working with Mr. Daly as a teammate and have had the pleasure of having him as a reliable, wonderful, regular substitute teacher in my classroom. I can say with utmost confidence that he would make an amazing teacher candidate in any school district and in any grade level.

Mr. Daly enters classrooms with a heightened sense of awareness and structure for his daily work. He is competent in knowing what students need and is willing and able to adjust instruction to better meet individual student needs. His ability to model expectations academically for students is commended, and student work completion is at an all-time high when he is part of the classroom learning. Mr. Daly is also open and willing to try new programs and to introduce instruction to students. There is no need to 'water down' curriculum when he is a building or classroom substitute teacher.

Mr. Neil Daly has a well-known strength as a substitute teacher in Boulder Valley School District. He documents all of his instruction, work completed, and struggling learners. This informs teachers immediately upon their return. He also is very modest about his wonderful discipline and motivational techniques he employs in the classroom. His program involving 'money', cards, and items to purchase daily is remarkable and should be used during teacher and substitute teacher trainings prior to the start of a school year. The seamlessness that Mr. Daly's organization provides is also wonderful to have in a building and in a classroom.

Sadly, if Mr. Daly receives a permanent classroom teaching position, many teachers will miss him as their go-to, reliable, motivated, and energetic substitute teacher. Looking at this positively, there will be students permanently impacted by his teaching style, motivational techniques, and overall awareness of various learners and their needs on a more consistent basis.

As a veteran employee in Boulder Valley School District, I know that Mr. Daly will be dedicated to doing what is truly best for all learners in his future classroom. I strongly recommend Mr. Neil Daly for any classroom teaching position.

Thank you for your time and feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns as you make your decisions for your building, your team, and your classroom.

September 5, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter of recommendation is in strong support of Mr. Neil Daly. Neil was my daughter Amanda's fourth grade teacher at Mount Carbon Elementary. He taught Amanda in all the subjects including reading, writing, and math.

One of Neil's strengths is his ability to engage students by giving them the freedom to learn in a more open style. Since my daughter has never been one to excel by sitting at a desk with a book, Neil's style was a great fit for her. She often talked about the exciting things that were happening in the classroom. For example, Neil frequently used technology, integrated "hands-on" activities into his lessons, and often used games as a way to help students learn their basic skills. Neil's easy-going and upbeat personality also added to an overall positive classroom environment. With him as her teacher, Amanda thrived. She was happy, confident, and flourished academically. For one set of math tests, for example, she almost tripled her score from the start of the year to the end.

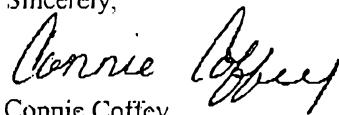
Another asset is Neil's communication skills with parents. Neil had several routines that enabled me and the other parents to feel very much in tune with the goings-on in the classroom. For example, he sent home a weekly "Friday Folder" to every parent. It included several graded papers, reminders and updates regarding classroom and school events, and other informative fliers and handouts. When a message was especially important or urgent, Neil recorded a voice message and sent it directly to our home phone using the "Calling Post" internet service. This technique is extremely useful and Neil is the only grade school teacher that I know of that uses it. Most importantly, Neil was always very welcoming and supportive whenever I visited the classroom or had questions.

Perhaps Neil's greatest strength is his rapport with students. He connects with them at a personal level. For example, at Christmas he picked out a book for each student that matched their individual interests. Since my daughter is a cheerleader, he gave her a book about cheerleading. Neil motivates students through encouragement and positive feedback, not by using scare tactics. By treating students respectfully he teaches them how to be respectful. Amanda had a great year with Neil. He helped her to grow into a very happy and confident young woman.

Neil is a teacher who effectively creates a learning environment that is respectful, engaging, and rewarding for his students. He would be a positive asset at any school.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



Connie Coffey

303-495-4615

ccoffey68@hotmail.com

July 22, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Neil Daly as a candidate for a teaching position at your school. Both of my sons were in Mr. Daly's class at Dutch Creek Elementary. In fact, I requested Mr. Daly.

I am an involved parent and former PTSA President. My impression of Mr. Daly is that of a teacher able to reach kids through creative and unique tools. I volunteered often at Dutch Creek and during my youngest son's 4th grade year I agreed to write the "Daly News." This is his monthly newsletter that goes home to parents keeping them involved in the curriculum and events in his class. I was able to see the information being presented to the students. Students were interviewed in order to let them explain what information was being covered in the classroom. I was constantly amazed with the ability and clarity of each and every student's explanation of the assignments. They could always reproduce the work and show me examples. Often it was the unique tools Mr. Daly used to teach math, writing or the science/social studies projects that stood out in the student's minds. Each student was excited to recall what they had learned and the method in which it was taught. The kids were definitely "getting it".

Mr. Daly was the only teacher at Dutch Creek who gave our family his home phone number and encouraged us to use it. In fact, he is the only teacher who has contacted me by phone, at home regarding my child's behavior and I appreciated it. He welcomed every parent to visit his classroom at anytime and I always felt welcome and comfortable in his classroom.

It seems rare, in this day of hustle and bustle, when a teacher becomes a part of the community and dedicates himself to the school, even after hours. Mr. Daly helped organize and operate the basketball intramural program, attended each PTSA meeting, and each Skate City outing. He was at every community event I attended. I put together the yearbook for Dutch Creek; his photos showed up often because of this involvement. He was a leader of the Student Senate program and successfully helped another teacher produce its 1st school carnival.

Mr. Daly is a teacher who made Dutch Creek special. By the time kids entered 1st grade they knew who Mr. Daly was and couldn't wait to reach 4th grade in hopes he'd be their teacher. We need teachers like Mr. Daly who inspire the kids, get involved, and make their schools excellent.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



Janel White

303-933-4208

J4white@comcast.net