Susan Allred 213 Honeysuckle Drive Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Dear Search Committee Members:

This letter is written to serve as a reference for Darlene Spurlock as she pursues a position in your school or district.

Being able to hire and work with Darlene Spurlock as her area supervisor in her role as Education Recovery Specialist (ERS) initially at East Carter High School I can attest to her ability to organize and use data to inform planning from the school to classroom to student level and thus immediately impact student performance. To be selected as an ERS she already had a track record as a classroom teacher and principal before coming to the priority school work. She did not miss a beat in her ability to transfer her own content knowledge to the continuous improvement model used in priority schools. In the 18 months or so that I was Education Recovery Director in the East Region, I watched her work, always organized and always prepared with the appropriate data and information and always willing to work in whatever the group (PLC, one-on-one, leadership team, small group, school council) in a professional manner.

I was not surprised when she was hired by the division director at KDE to work with the digital team in the Office of Next Generation Schools and Districts nor as she moved into the quality delivery unit. Darlene's skills in technology, math, data analysis are solid. Transitioning now I understand that Darlene wishes to get back closer to where children/students are impacted through the work she does. If I had an open position, I would definitely interview her to see if her skills and the position align. If I had the opportunity to hire or work with her again, I certainly would.

Please contact me if I can provide further information or be of service in your decision.

Sincerely,

Susan G. Allred, EdS

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Interim Associate/Administrative Coach

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