

Becca Buck K-5 Music Specialist Gideon Pond Elementary March 8, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my absolute pleasure to recommend Jane Beeninga for your organization. I have known Jane for six years, and within that time, she has shown endless enthusiasm and professionalism within every setting that I have worked with her.

Jane is highly respected by her colleagues because of her many skills within the workplace and positively sparkling personality. She demonstrates natural leadership in every room she enters and has this uncanny ability to create personalized and authentic relationships with every person she crosses paths with. She once told me that she is passionate about meeting and knowing people who are different from her, which is a testament to her open-mindedness and dedication for advocating for those who may not have a voice or place at the table. In times of conflict or high stress, I have witnessed time and time again how Jane is able to rationalize in the moment, see the situation for what it is, and create a calm and safe environment for those around her. In addition, she is one of the most organized and efficient colleagues I have worked with and can be counted on to work as hard as needed to see a project through to the end.

A specific example of how all of her skills are so complementary and integrated into her work is a project that I had the privilege of collaborating with her on. She and I teamed up with a community member to complete "We've Got You Covered," a community-wide project to ensure there were hijabs and modest clothing available for Muslim girls and young women within all public schools in our school district. There were many steps to the project: education for the community, public relations and fundraising, seeking vendors, purchasing the clothing, distributing to all schools, and training the nursing department how to put on and adjust the clothing. At the end of this project, we impacted hundreds of youth throughout our community and helped them to feel valued, and inspired many other school districts to begin the steps to make this happen in communities across the country. Jane was so excited by this project that she has continued to seek more ways to positively leave her mark on this world through project management.

Jane's plethora of skills were evident most recently when she was a guest speaker in my undergraduate course on multilingual learners in a public school music classroom. She was the expert in the room and was able to seamlessly implement concrete strategies for multilingual learners in their music class. She was able to imagine many different scenarios and give us skills to better understand how to help our students. My undergraduate students walked away feeling empowered and prepared to ensure all learners within their future classrooms could feel included and celebrated in their music classes, thanks to Jane.

I could not be more impressed with Jane's many skills and how she is able to use every single one of them in her professional life and various projects that she is a part of. Her love for working with and collaborating with people from all walks of life is evident in every interaction I have with her. You would be extremely lucky to have Jane as a partner in any project, and I am honored to recommend her with absolutely no reservation.

Sincerely, Becca Buck

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