



3375 Edison Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025

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To Whom It May Concern:

I have had the honor and pleasure of working with Paige Carey for the last eight years at Synapse School. Paige is a teacher of tremendous dedication and integrity, and is the type of reflective, thoughtful, and collaborative educator that inspires others. She is thoughtful and committed, with great knowledge in the areas of pedagogy, social emotional learning and classroom management.

As a member of the Lower School team, Paige is a skilled and responsive teacher, strong communicator, contributing team player, and strives to be inclusive in her actions and intentions. Paige's students feel safe, known and engaged, parents experience a strong partnership stance, and her colleagues have a flexible and supportive teammate. Paige is capable, organized, and is a self-motivated and driven professional. Throughout the school year Paige consistently seeks professional development opportunities, including finishing a master's degree.

Over the last eight years, Paige has received training in emotional intelligence ("EQ") through Six Seconds, an Emotional Intelligence Network with a framework of competencies for teaching and reflecting. Paige has embraced the Six Seconds framework, integrating it into her curriculum planning and interactions with students, colleagues, and parents to develop a strong social-emotional focused learning environment. In the classroom, she voices her thoughts and emotions in an effort to be transparent and vulnerable. Her love of early childhood education is apparent in her respectful tone, patience, and gentle reminders for friends who need a bit more encouragement.

To be quite honest, Paige is a highly sought-after Kindergarten teacher, and this is a clear reflection of her skills. Paige's deep respect for children, her clear expectations, and emphasis on a growth mindset make her classroom hum with purpose; she is a "warm demander." It is a joy to watch Paige teach. She invites questions, offers hands-on explorations, and works to give just the right feedback to nudge students forward in their discoveries. She creates projects and experiences that build on student interests and encourages them to think deeply, collaborate, and problem solve over time. Most importantly, Paige teaches students to love challenges, take risks, be intrigued by mistakes, and build their confidence as thinkers and learners. These are skills we actively measure as a school community, and Paige stands out as a teacher leader in these areas. For example, a few years ago Paige led the Kindergarten team in developing a long-term project centered around fairies. Each student created their own fairy character and contributed to designing and building their fairy community. Throughout the year, the fairies were prompted to



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respond to and interact with each other, and this was, of course, a creative way to build in person relationships, express emotions, and tell social stories. Through the perspective of fairies, Paige developed curricularly integrated lessons around communities and friendship, social justice, environmental sustainability, and even the role of government. Her sense of humor and understanding of child development made this a joyful project, and over time it has evolved into a cornerstone framework for the Synapse Kindergarten experience. She's had a lasting impact, as we can't imagine Kindergarten without fairies.

I enthusiastically recommend Paige to you; she is a masterful teacher who would add a thoughtful and dedicated presence to any community. Though I have the privilege of writing this recommendation, it is important to share that I have learned so much from her. Her strong values, pedagogical knowledge, and engagement make her an ideal candidate for any school.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Katie Morgan

Head of Lower School

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