

Diane Knott
Coordinator of Gifted and Talented Program
Gorham School Dept.
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RE: Letter of Reference for DaraLyn McColl

March 31, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write this letter of reference for DaraLyn McColl and to recommend her for an Art teaching position. I first met Ms. McColl when she was a parent volunteer on the Gorham Arts Alliance Committee assisting with website design and activity planning. More recently, I've had the privilege to work with her in my role as Coordinator of SAIL, Gorham's Gifted and Talented Program. She was my educational assistant, supporting student GT learning plans for two years with an emphasis on visual arts. She is currently an Alternative Educational assistant at Village School and frequently applies SAIL differentiation strategies in that position.

As DaraLyn's supervisor, I appreciated her ability to establish a supportive learning environment for her students where they felt respected and valued. She demonstrated the importance of building relationships with students to respond to their needs and encourage academic growth. Her passion for visual arts, promoting creativity, and embedding graphic design is evident in her interactions with students, staff, and community, as shown in many examples of student art projects and site-based student publications or newspapers.

It has been my pleasure to encourage DaraLyn to pursue her goal to become an art teacher knowing her strengths align well with teaching students in the 21st century. She has a natural ability to support students in art and to prepare them with the skills they will need to be successful in their future.

I continue to be impressed with DaraLyn's initiative to develop her content knowledge and refine her pedagogy. She has actively pursued professional development experiences to apply visual arts and learning strategies through content integration and graphic design. In addition, I have come to appreciate DaraLyn as a valued colleague through our experiences working together. She is dependable and brings positive energy to her interactions with both students and adults. Please call me at 207-222-1376 if you have any questions about this reference.

Sincerely,



Diane Knott
Coordinator of Gifted and Talented Program
Gorham School Department