

3 June 2009  
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To Whom It May Concern:

As you review applicants to fill your open positions for the upcoming school year, I strongly recommend Dr. Jerrod Wheeler as the best candidate. Dr. Wheeler has been my principal for five years. During those five years, I have gotten to know Dr. Wheeler well, both on a professional and personal basis. He is an extremely hardworking, dedicated, and intelligent individual who always puts the needs of students ahead of everything else. I feel honored to have had the opportunity to work with him and I am saddened to see him go.

Dr. Wheeler is a master at creating a community of collaboration and inspiring his teachers and students to greatness. While I have worked with him, I have observed him form teams of teachers who work well together and encourage them to collaborate, communicate, and share ideas on a consistent basis. He has high expectations for teachers and students, and there is no doubt he believes in our abilities to achieve his expectations. As a result, instruction continues to improve, attendance is remarkable, and students and teachers alike enjoy coming to school. In addition, Espy Elementary has been awarded Missouri's prestigious Gold Star and is nominated as a Blue Ribbon school. These awards are a direct result of the Dr. Wheeler's leadership.

Another great skill Dr. Wheeler possesses is in the area of technology. His expertise and continual thirst for knowledge about our increasingly digital classrooms has ensured that Espy Elementary is at the forefront of technology. He crusaded tirelessly to get SmartBoards in every classroom and has been relentless in his pursuit of high-quality equipment and tools for students and teachers. Instruction, motivation, and achievement have all improved due to his goal to stay ahead of technology.

Perhaps the best recommendation I can give for Dr. Wheeler is that he will be missed greatly. I have worked in other schools, and the atmosphere that Dr. Wheeler has created at Espy is special. It has truly been a joy to come to work every day. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Any school that hires Dr. Wheeler will be gaining a great asset.

Sincerely,



Carey A. Davis  
Teacher, Espy Elementary