

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

April 20, 2010

Dear Colleague:

I write to recommend **Annie Magid-Beale** for your teaching position in social studies education. I know Annie as a student in my university course, titled "Professional Roles and Responsibilities." Students at MSU take this course during their internship year, and it treats a wide range of issues that include classroom management, motivation for learning, establishing relationships with students, and others. In this course we ask students to present cases of their practice in their intern placements, and we keep the content of the course as closely linked as possible to their work in schools. Consequently, while I cannot attest directly to Annie's teaching abilities (as I have not observed her teach), I can affirm other qualities that she has shown in my class.

Annie is a conscientious, thoughtful, and dedicated teacher. She has impressed me with her high level of engagement in this course, her willingness to be open about both what has been working well for her and what she has been struggling with. The work she has produced for the course strongly suggests a young teacher who is well on her way to developing into a fine professional. She impresses me with her willingness to share her experiences, solicit feedback, try out ideas and modify them based on what she learns, and reflect on her experiences in the classroom as a basis for making improvements.

She reports interesting work in her social studies teaching, seeking ways of connecting the content to students' understanding and interests. And, she is warm, personable, and willing to reach out to students in order to establish good relationships with them.

Overall, I would rate Annie in the top fifth of all students I have worked with over the years and am fully confident that she will be a first-rate teacher and contributor to a school's community, doing her share of the work, reaching out to students, engaging in extra-curricular activities, and generally being a good citizen. She has my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,



**Department of
Teacher Education**

Michigan State University
Erickson Hall
East Lansing, MI
48824-1034
517/432-5092

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Gary Sykes

Gary Sykes
Professor
Department of Teacher Education
College of Education
Michigan State University



**Department of
Teacher Education**

Michigan State University
Erickson Hall
East Lansing, MI
48824-1034
517/432-5092