

May 24, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Alicia Burke

I have known Alicia since September 2003 when she was my student in BUED 301 and BUED 314A at the University of British Columbia. Recently, Alicia completed a successful thirteen week practicum at Eric Hamber Secondary School in Vancouver where I was her Faculty Advisor. On practicum, Alicia taught a variety of Business Education courses including Accounting 11, Business Education 10, Marketing 11, and Business Computer Applications 11.

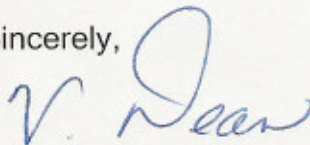
When I first met Alicia in our class, I was impressed by her professionalism and enthusiasm. I structured the class as a model of how I teach in a secondary classroom. Part of that model included having a student monitor who would gain leadership experience by helping the instructor and classmates in daily classroom activities. Alicia willingly and happily volunteered as our class monitor. She became invaluable due to her initiative, positive attitude and reliability.

On practicum, Alicia's abilities as a natural teacher unfolded. Alicia is an intelligent, grounded and caring woman. She showed exceptional organizational abilities and an excellent understanding of curriculum and instruction. Alicia created a productive and rigorous learning environment with purposeful lessons. In her marketing and business education classes, she demonstrated her creativity through interesting and meaningful activities for students. Most importantly, Alicia maintained a respectful, friendly atmosphere in her classrooms where she showed genuine interest in and good rapport with her students. To her credit, Alicia's School Advisors commented that she is the most outstanding student teacher they have ever worked with.

On a personal level, it is a pleasure for me to work with Alicia in the BUED cohort this year. I enjoy knowing Alicia and find her very informed, thoughtful and reflective. Alicia has a number of traits and abilities that make her a natural leader and educator. I am positive that she will make a meaningful and significant contribution to education as she embarks on her career as a teacher.

Without any reservations, I highly recommend Alicia for any educational positions or programs that she applies for in the future. Please contact me if you would like any additional information.

Sincerely,



Virginia Dean, PhD
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