

ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY
611 GREENWOOD DR.
IOWA CITY, IA 52246

July 2007

Educational Placement Office
N302 Lindquist Center
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA 52242

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Patrick Anderson

I am writing this letter on behalf of my colleague Patrick Anderson. I am currently a teacher of elementary general music for the Iowa City Community School District. I have had the opportunity to work with Patrick for the past two school years in the capacity of his music colleague and teaching mentor.

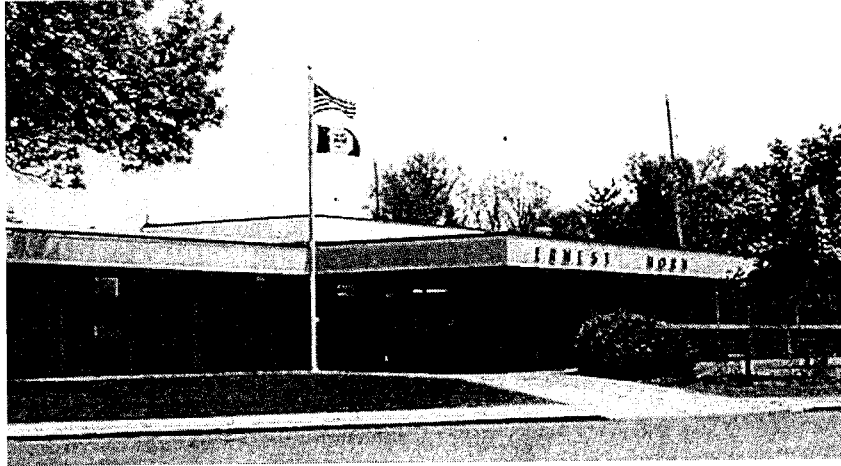
Within the general music department I have seen Patrick embrace our teaching specialty. He has brought a raised awareness of his area of expertise, namely the musical genre of steel pans, to our music staff. He has not allowed his minimal experience in the elementary classroom to hinder him from enthusiastically accepting opportunities to share with his more veteran colleagues. Patrick has begun to quite successfully fuse his percussion background with the Orff approach to the elementary general music classroom. His fervor for teaching children the art of improvisation and his tremendous growth in the area of curriculum development has served as an awakening for my own teaching.

As his mentor I have had the opportunity to observe Patrick's teaching several times over the past two years. He has experienced a remarkable growth in the areas of child development and classroom management. Patrick sets professional goals with the benefit of the students in mind. He actively sought my feedback as well as those of fellow colleagues with the goal of improvement of his teaching skills. Through classroom visits and my conversations I observed Patrick successfully implement many of these suggestions as he continues to develop his own unique teaching style.

Sincerely,



Julie Bride
General Music Specialist
Iowa City Community School District



*Horn Elementary School
600 Koser Avenue
Iowa City, Iowa 52246*

April 1, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the principal of Horn Elementary School in the Iowa City Community School District. Patrick Anderson has been a teacher at Horn Elementary School, and I am very pleased to write a recommendation for him. Patrick taught general music to primary grade students, grades 1 and 2, at Horn this last year.

Mr. Anderson is an extraordinary teacher; he has solid knowledge of our school's curriculum and is continually developing his knowledge and understanding of curriculum and best teaching practices through professional development. He continually works to help each student gain academic, social and emotional growth at home and school.

Mr. Anderson has a wonderful work ethic and understands the importance of being on time and at work every day. He also has a wonderful "can do" attitude and attacks all tasks with confidence and determination. I have high regard for his professional capabilities and recommend him for any position for which he might apply.

Sincerely,
Kristin Cannon, Principal (cannon.kristin@iccsd.k12.ia.us)
Horn Elementary School
Iowa City, Iowa
52246

April 7, 2008

Dear Madam or Sir:

It is my pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Mr. Patrick Anderson. I have taught with Patrick for the past three years at Mark Twain Elementary in Iowa City, Iowa. He possesses the traits necessary to be an excellent teacher.


Patrick has taught general music at Twain and has developed a positive rapport with his students. They genuinely enjoy coming to his class, and he certainly enjoys working with them. He demonstrates a good working knowledge of the curriculum and adapts that curriculum to work to the strengths and interests of the students.

Patrick has developed strong classroom management skills. He has adjusted his strategies to meet the needs of a difficult and diverse population. His expectations are clear and he consistently enforces his classroom policies in a calm and effective manner.

Patrick willingly incorporates classroom themes and areas of study into his lesson planning. He has worked well with his colleagues developing these lessons. He also participates in special activities and events that take place in our building. He is willing to share his talents and expertise to support staff and building goals. For example, Patrick and his band performed background music for our recent PTO carnival, and he has spearheaded the school's entry in the University of Iowa's Homecoming Parade each year.

I am happy to recommend Patrick for a teaching position in your school. He has made a positive impact on students at Twain, and I am confident that he will do the same for your school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Hanson".

Mary Hanson
Kindergarten
Mark Twain Elementary

April 18, 2007

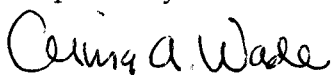
To Whom It May Concern:

I have worked with Patrick Anderson at Mark Twain Elementary School in Iowa City, Iowa for three years. I teach art and Patrick teaches music. We are the entire Fine Arts Department at our school. Patrick is a wonderful, supportive colleague and team player. He is an energetic and enthusiastic teacher and has a wealth of knowledge to share with students, especially in the area of percussion.

Patrick is very dedicated to his position and to the students he teaches here at Mark Twain. He runs an after school drumming program, organizes student groups to participate in drumming in local parades, organizes the all school talent show and performs with various drumming groups at school functions and events, such as the yearly carnival. Patrick is willing to go above and beyond the normal school day to enrich the learning opportunities our students can access. Patrick is always available to staff and students. I cannot think of an instance in three years when I have asked Patrick for help of any sort that he was too busy to lend a hand.

Patrick takes every opportunity to grow and develop professionally and often attends music workshops and conventions out of state on the weekends or on school breaks. He uses what he learns with his students and this makes their experience of music more meaningful and dynamic. He is an excellent teacher and his rapport with students is both consistent and fair. Patrick has high expectations for himself and the students he teaches. He will be a welcome addition to any staff and he will be missed if he does leave Mark Twain. I recommend Patrick Anderson without reservation and wish him the best.

Respectfully,



Cerina A. Wade

Mark Twain & Hoover Art

Iowa City Community School District