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To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter for Andrew Arcello, a student from Providence College. Andrew did his student teaching at Barrington High School, and I was fortunate to be his cooperating teacher. We worked closely together, and it was a pleasure to work with someone I considered an equal co-worker.

Andrew is a remarkable young man. He is an intelligent, self assured person who thoroughly enjoys music. This was immediately evident from our first meeting. We rapidly formed a comfortable working relationship and team taught throughout his stay at our school. His teaching responsibilities included Electronic Music classes, Chorus, and Choral Ensemble. Andrew entered the Electronic Music class with little background in the subject. Despite the lack of initial knowledge, he quickly learned how to use the equipment and software and assumed the responsibility of teaching this class. I was genuinely impressed with his ability to teach in a lecture capacity. He was incredibly creative, using all tools available to him. I could always depend on Andrew to be prepared for every class and participate with high energy that captured the students' attention from the first day. He has a wonderful personality and sense of humor, sincere and thoughtful, which was enjoyed by students and faculty as well.

Andrew is a wonderful musician who was born to conduct a choir. I have worked with many student teachers' but Andrew's passion for choral conducting is unsurpassed. His tenor voice is a great model for all my high school students. He has the facility to explain and demonstrate to all students. His piano skills are excellent but he does not depend on the piano as a teaching aid. He is most comfortable teaching in a choir setting. Whether it is a sectional rehearsal, or a full choir of 75 students, his ability to teach is equal to that of a seasoned teacher. His lessons are sequential, and begin with creative warm-ups that include movement. Andrew's conducting skills are easy to follow and expressive. He understands how and when the choir needs to breathe and his conducting reflects this understanding. His direction is precise, and he is quite comfortable troubleshooting at a moment's notice.

Andrew's talents as well as his enduring personality set him aside from other student teachers. He constantly sets high standards for himself and is a loyal person with admirable values. I feel blessed to have worked with this wonderful individual, and I am very excited for his future in music. He would be a credit to his profession and someone who would serve as a role model for all his students. Andrew has my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,

Paulette LaParle

Director of Choral Studies K-12