



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
WHITEWATER

COLLEGE of EDUCATION
AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
Center for Communicative Disorders

December 4, 2019

Dear Ms. Beavers,

During the course of this semester, I have had several opportunities to visit McNeel Intermediate School as part of my role as a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. One of my graduate students, Kate Russo, has had the privilege of completing a school practicum placement under the mentorship of the school's speech language pathologist, Carla Heldt.

Both my visits and Kate's experience have been phenomenal! Ms. Heldt is the kind of mentor we, at the university, crave for our student clinicians. She is smart, motivated and compassionate. Her learners clearly enjoy, as well as benefit from, the time they spend with her. She is not content to just "do her job," but appears consistently willing to go above and beyond. I have had a number of informative conversations with her and have followed up on several of her recommendations for additional reading.

Additionally, I have found your school to be an excellent environment for learning – not just for my student clinician, but for the students who are enrolled, as well as the educators who are working with them. The building is clean, bright and well maintained. More importantly, I have been thrilled to find my graduate student learning in a setting where children are clearly not only respected, but treasured. It is obvious from my observations, as well as from my conversations with several members of the faculty and administration, that the McNeel Intermediate team is passionate about providing students with a safe and nurturing environment, both for growing academically, as well as for growing as people. Ultimately, I think the world is going to be a better place because of the things that are happening at McNeel on a daily basis!

Thank you for allowing me to observe in your building! Thank you for letting my graduate student learn in your building, from your students and faculty! And thank you for your part in creating an environment that kids and faculty are lucky to be in!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Miller Swanson MA, CCC-SLP".

Beth Miller Swanson, M.A., CCC-SLP

Assistant Clinical Professor

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater