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To Whom It May Concern,

I am very interested in being trained as a Team Mentor and Cooperating Teacher. I am currently a fourth grade teacher at Ellen P. Hubbell School. This is my sixth year in this position. I hold my provisional teaching certificate in Elementary Education. I also have my Master's Degree in Reading and Language Arts. Over the past six years at Hubbell, I have enjoyed working with children of all abilities, as well as collaborating with my team and staff. I have taken on many leadership roles and have grown as a teacher and individual. I would love to give back to the teaching community by mentoring a student teacher or new teacher. As a student teacher many years ago, I had such a wonderful experience and have often thought about giving another beginning teacher that chance. I truly enjoy working with and helping not only children, but adults as well. I feel I am the perfect fit for many reasons. I am very well organized and I am often complimented on how neat and organized my classroom is. I also excel at time management and have even helped other teachers in my school learn to better manage their prep time. Finally, my classroom management skills are very strong. In my years of teaching I have worked tirelessly to build relationships with all of my students while also holding high expectations. I am constantly reading and researching new management techniques and ideas to help refine my practice. I think all of these skills are not necessarily taught to new teachers in college but are essential to being an effective teacher.

Over the past several years working in Bristol, I have worked hard to make a difference not only in my classroom, but in my school and district. I served on my school Leadership Team as the representative for my grade level for many years. I was also chosen in 2014 to take part in the Connecticut Dream Team. This team had 100 educators from across the state who came together to write curriculum aligned to the Common Core. Also in 2014, my class and I were featured in a series of learning video modules on the Smarter Balanced Digital Library and the website for the Teaching Channel. This video has even been shown at some Colleges in the teaching program. I was also honored to write a blog piece for The Teaching Channel Website in 2015. As a teacher, I am always looking for ways to continue my learning. I have worked on numerous curriculum committees at the district level, as well as the Professional Learning Planning Council and the Bristol Teacher Leaders Committee. I am a very active member of my school's PTA. I really enjoy working with teachers and adults across the district. However, one of the things I most enjoy is collaborating with the other two fourth grade teachers in my school to create and improve our own lessons and plans. I am very lucky to be on a team with two other fabulous 4th grade teachers. We are constantly helping one another and treat the entire grade level as all of our students. This would be an amazing team for a student teacher to be a part of.

Prior to working in Bristol, I taught first grade for two years at Amistad Academy Elementary School in New Haven, CT. Amistad is a public charter school and I had 30 first graders in my classroom. This is where I completed my own Team program. My team mentor was very busy and didn't really give me the full experience and because of this I want to work as a mentor so this doesn't happen to someone else. The first few years as a teacher can be very stressful and I would really love to make the transition easier on new teachers. While my own Team program was not a great experience, I was lucky to have an academic coach who observed me very often while in this position. Through this experience I learned a lot about how to give and receive feedback. I feel this is an important part of mentoring a new teacher that will help me as mentor.

In closing, I hope you will consider me to be a Team Mentor and Cooperating Teacher. I am patient, hardworking and kind. I excel at time management, organization and classroom management. I truly feel all of my experience and work within the district and my school will help me to welcome a new teacher to the profession.

Sincerely,