

**Katie Johnson, Principal**  
Elizabeth Ide Elementary School  
Center Cass School District 66  
699 Plainfield Road  
Downers Grove, IL 60516



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## Memo

To: Dr. Wise, Superintendent  
From: Katie Johnson, Principal  
Date: December 2, 2024  
Re: Recommendation to hire the following:  
**Leah Gurnic, Paraprofessional (Elizabeth Ide Elementary School)**

I highly recommend **Mrs. Leah Gurnic** for employment as a classroom paraprofessional at Elizabeth Ide Elementary School. Mrs. Gurnic has deep roots in the community, having attended IDE herself, and her children have gone through CCSD66, making her not only a familiar face but also a committed community member. With over 15 years of experience as a nurse, she is now seeking a meaningful opportunity to give back to the community, particularly by working with children in the school setting.

In addition to her career in healthcare, Mrs. Gurnic has also been an active Sunday School teacher for children in grades Pre-K through 3rd grade. These roles have further strengthened her ability to connect with young learners and foster an environment of care and support. Her professional and personal experiences have shaped her into the compassionate, empathetic, and positive individual she is today.

Mrs. Gurnic places a high value on building relationships and providing exceptional service, whether in a hospital setting or a school environment. Her commitment to creating positive experiences for others, especially children, is evident in her approach to both work and life. Her references consistently highlight her willingness to go above and beyond to help others, as well as her reliability, strong work ethic, and positive attitude. Words like "cooperative," "trustworthy," and "wonderful to work with" were frequently used to describe her.

I am confident that Mrs. Gurnic's combination of experience, enthusiasm, and dedication will make her a valuable asset to the team at Elizabeth Ide Elementary School. Her positive energy and commitment to helping others will surely contribute to a supportive and nurturing environment for the students she serves.

Thank you!