

H. Guy Child Elementary



To Whom It May Concern,

I am nominating Caitlyn Singley for First Year Teacher of the Year. Caitlyn is a Life Skills teacher who has made a tremendous impact on the lives of her students. She may be petite, (many of her students are taller and larger than her) but she has the fire and passion for teaching Life Skills and Life Skills students that is immeasurable.

Caitlyn once told me that she could never imagine teaching general education children. She loves the children she works with and watching them learn. She gets great pleasure out of hearing parents say, "I didn't think my child would ever be able to do that." She holds high expectations for her students both academically and behaviorally.

When you enter Caitlyn's room, students are actively engaged in work. The para-professionals that work in the room know what the expectations are for the students, they know student goals and they know the expectations Caitlyn has for them when working with the students. This creates a very positive feeling in the classroom.

Caitlyn knows which of her students like Buzz and Woody, who likes Tom and Jerry, who wants hot Cheetos or likes to work with Legos and most importantly who doesn't like the month of November because there are turkeys, but loves December because there are reindeer and Santa. The times I have been in her room for formal and informal observations there is continuous positive feedback for the students. It flows so naturally that she doesn't even realize it is happening.

Caitlyn has faced some very difficult challenges this year with student behaviors. She has not backed down from the challenge. District support personnel have come to the school to offer suggestions and support for the extreme behaviors that have been present with some of the students. Caitlyn has willingly accepted the suggestions and implemented them immediately. If the suggestions have not worked, she has reached out for more help. Caitlyn does not let anything stand in the way of her advocating for her students.

As many people know, there is a great deal of work that goes into the IEP's for students. She has learned quickly what has to be done and she has gotten it done. She keeps data for the students current and helps students see their progress.

Caitlyn is a team player. We have two Life Skills units at the school and she is never hesitant to step in when needed in situations that arise, even if it is with a student that is not assigned to her classroom. She keeps everyone laughing with her bright sense of humor and her ability to turn something hard into something positive. I know she has sat in her car at the end of the day and had thoughts of, "Do I really want to come back tomorrow?" but she tells herself that tomorrow is going to be better. She comes back the next day with a positive attitude and is ready to start over. Not only is Caitlyn a team player with students and employees in the Life Skills program she is a team player within the school. If she sees a student having difficulties in the hallway or on the playground she is ready and willing to help.

Caitlyn Singley is an asset to the education profession to the Weber School district and to H. Guy Child Elementary. The assets listed in this letter, along with her phenomenal teaching ability and contagious enthusiasm are the reasons I am nominating her for First Year Teacher of the Year.

Professionally,
Janene Salt
Principal
H. Guy Child Elementary
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March 30, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of nomination for Caitlyn Singley. Weber School District is extremely lucky to have hired such an amazing and talented teacher as Caitlyn. In her first year, she has demonstrated positivity, quick-thinking, flexibility, innovation, organization, team work, willingness to do hard things, excellent management skills, and many other commendable qualities that have come to make a difference in the lives of our students.

Caitlyn teaches in one of our most challenging special education classes. She handles difficult behaviors and challenges with optimism and determination. Her students know that she cares about them and will be prepared with appropriate instructional activities each day. In addition to her in-person students, she has instructed another student virtually all year. Caitlyn has demonstrated mastery and understanding of individualized curriculum and special education compliance. She has shown extra efforts in working with parents and also manages and supports a team of paraprofessionals.

Weber School District special education students, their parents, and colleagues of Caitlyn are much better off having interacted with her through this past year. She deserves to be recognized for her efforts and talents. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lora Shinney
Special Education Coordinator

March 31, 2021

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to write this letter to nominate Mrs. Caitlyn Singley as a candidate for first year teacher of the year. It has been my pleasure to work beside as well as mentor Caityln as a first year teacher. She has made an impression on all the students and staff here at H. Guy Child.

I am impressed with her ability to face hard challenges. As a Life Skills teacher, we never know what each day will bring. Caitlyn has had many behavior problems arise in her classroom and she has stood up to the challenge and was able to try new things and figure out what each student in her room needs. Her creativity and ability to adapt has made this year a success.

As a mentor, I was more of a way to bounce ideas off than her seeking for me to solve her problems. I was amazed at her energy and ability to pull new ideas out and apply them to her class. She has made great relationships with her students and their parents. We share a staff, they rotate from her class to mine and I have heard nothing but positive feedback from them.

As a Special Educator, Caitlyn has been able to keep up with all the paperwork, IEP meetings, evaluations, progress reports as well as implementing lesson plans in her day. She has kept up with her data and made educated decisions based on each student's needs. She has set up opportunities for her students to access the general education curriculum and made great relationships with the teachers in the building. She truly is a model educator and it is a pleasure to work with her.

Thank You,

Sherry Giles, MA
Life Skills Teacher, Mentor
H. Guy Child Elementary