April 23, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to nominate a first year teacher whose impact on students resonates throughout our school. Mrs. Weston has touched students in ways that change us personally and professionally. She is a teacher dedicated to helping students, and differentiating to meet individual needs, which is a fundamental part of her educational model. To have these qualities your first year teaching is unprecedented.

In her first year, Mrs. Weston had the privilege of teaching the most difficult first grader transitioning from an alternative Kindergarten classroom. This student loved to run straight to the parking lot and when she had her mind fixed on something, she wanted it right then. Mrs. Weston built an incredible relationship with this student, implemented strategies for a successful start to the morning for her when she entered the classroom, which was often a struggle, and taught her other students how to accept, engage and support this student while continuing to learn without allowing her to be a disruption.

Mrs. Weston has gone above and beyond to make school fun and engaging for her students as well as build relationships with them in order to gain their trust. This is why the student mentioned above was thriving in her classroom and became excited to come to school everyday.

Mrs. Weston engages all her students in the lesson being taught. She uses multiple attention signals, songs, chants, and positive incentives to keep her students engaged. She uses effective short and long term assessments that enable her to monitor students' learning so that her teaching can be adjusted if needed.

In Mrs. Weston's class, all students are treated with respect. She has been able to differentiate her teaching in such a way that she has developed excellent management techniques for all student abilities. Her attitude is always positive and she is always looking for ways to improve. Her classroom management and engagement is so incredible that as a first year teacher, she had veteran teachers in the building observe her teaching style to implement positives and engagement in their own classroom.

Mrs. Weston will continue to welcome the opportunity to take some of the toughest kids in the school and comes to work every day with a smile on her face. Again, she makes every student feel like they are the most important person in the class. She continues to implement the best teaching strategies and is continually developing herself professionally through ongoing professional development.

I could continue to write about her passion and dedication with which Mrs. Weston exemplifies through teaching students and collaborating with her peers. SHe is one of the finest first year teachers I have worked with in my teaching career and I hope you will recognize her for outstanding teaching which was displayed as a veteran teacher.

Sincerely,

Stacy Rountree Principal Midland Elementary