

# Pleasantdale School District 107

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Middle School • 7450 S. Wolf Road • Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
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John A. Glimco, Principal

To: Dr. Dave Palzet  
From: John A Glimco  
Date: January 13, 2016  
RE: Hiring Recommendation for Amy (Downin) DiCosola  
Reading Specialist/RtI Facilitator for 2015-16 School Year

I am recommending Amy (Downin) DiCosola to be hired for the remainder of the 2015-16 School year for the Reading Specialist/RtI Facilitator position formerly held by Pana Campbell.

Amy is currently employed in a similar role in the Rockford School District, where she has been employed for the past 17 years. She started her career in Rockford initially at the elementary level, and has been at the Middle School Level for the past 15 years, serving as the Literacy Leader at this level for the past 4 years. In this role she oversees the Reading instructors at the Middle School level, is directly responsible for all RtI services, coordinates all assessments and develops all district level resources and assessments for all Reading classes. Amy is familiar with the programs and services utilized in our district, with direct experience with both STAR and Read 180.

Amy comes highly recommended for this role. Her references cite her strong ability both in the classrooms and in her leadership role. Specifically to her role as the Literacy Leader, they noted her ability to gather and organize student data in order to assist teachers in determining best supports and interventions for their students. They addressed her strong, positive relationships with parents, colleagues and students. Specifically towards students, they noted her ability for developing connections with her students and her ability to positively impact their learning.

For this position, 14 candidates were screened and 7 interviewed at the building. Based on her interview, her references, and her experiences, I would like to recommend Amy (Downin) DiCosola for the Reading/RtI Specialist position at Pleasantdale Middle School for the remainder of the 2015-16 School Year.

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## Mission

Ensure that each student is a passionate learner empowered with the academic and social skills to responsibly choose and excel in life pursuits.