

March 27, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

When I first met Grant Jeffrey in 2018 at the Rock Hill School District Meet-and-Greet for Mentors and Mentees, I was not quite sure how to take him. He was quite reserved but always observing and always taking notes. Whether it was as a faculty meeting or a meeting with me, Mr. Jeffrey was always taking notes. This was only the first of many things about Mr. Jeffrey that impressed me and have helped him grow into an amazing teacher that any school district would be lucky to have on staff.

I was assigned as Mr. Jeffrey's Mentor Teacher to help him navigate his first year of teaching. One mentor responsibility is to observe the induction teacher then provide feedback. As I was evaluating the lesson plan prior to the observation I was initially concerned about the article on Uber Mr. Jeffrey planned to use in his lesson on Supply and Demand. It was written at such a high level and included so many terms that I did not even know. In our pre-conference Mr. Jeffrey was very confident about his lesson and using the article, so I decided to wait and see how it went. The day of the observation Mr. Jeffrey breezed through his lesson on Supply and Demand then transitioned to why it is so important to students to understand the concept. He introduced the Uber article and discussed some of the new vocabulary followed by students reading the article out loud "popcorn" style. The questions and discussion throughout the activity made Supply and Demand real and applicable to each and every student. This is a prime example of what he believes is the essence of good teaching – to foster critical thinking in the classroom while challenging students to achieve more and promote confidence and courage in the process. Mr. Jeffrey does this by building professional relationships with his students, so they know he sees them as an individual with goals, ideals, and personal challenges.

Mr. Jeffrey challenges his students to learn content and apply it to current issues. He fosters discussion using current articles to help students consider the changing economy and political climate. Just as Mr. Jeffrey challenges his students, he also challenges himself. He became AP

U.S. History certified and sponsored the Northwestern High School Model United Nations Club. During lunch Mr. Jeffrey had an unofficial Chess Club. Another unique thing about Mr. Jeffrey is that he collects fountain pens. Once he realized how much his students liked them, he sent out requests to friends and family via social media outlets requesting pens and ink to use as incentives for his students. The response was tremendous, and his students have really worked hard to earn a fountain pen. It is definitely something that makes him stand out to his students.

When Mr. Jeffrey told me he was moving, I immediately told him how excited I was for him because he is such an amazing teacher and loves adventure. It has been an absolute joy to watch Grant Jeffrey's professional growth. Northwestern is losing a talented teacher.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Misty D. Gray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Misty" being more prominent and the last name "Gray" following in a similar style.

Misty D. Gray