

Dear Ms. Humphrey,

It is my understanding that Mr. Steve Cook is applying for a "Secondary Interventionist" position in your school district. It is my sincere opinion that you have an excellent candidate in Mr. Cook, a perfect match for the position. I base my statements on the following:

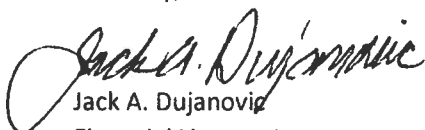
My position at the Idaho Department of Corrections is that of Financial Literacy Instructor. My prior instructor's position included GED Math. Approximately 7 years ago, I hired Mr. Cook as a GED Math Tutor. He quickly demonstrated his ability to work one on one with students who had one if not several challenges regarding the subject of Math. His success rate was phenomenal!! With 90% or more of his students passing their GED Math tests the first time they took it. He maintained this success rate for the several years that he was my assistant. Mr. Cook's personal knowledge base and his ability to quickly assess problem areas made him particularly effective. In addition, Mr. Cook took a supportive and yet a no-nonsense approach to presenting information to his students which challenged them to do their best while allowing them to learn at their own pace.

Shortly after accepting a GED Math position, the opportunity opened to initiate a financial Literacy class for which I was given the responsibility of expanding this sorely needed subject into a full-fledged program. Because of his financial background and teaching abilities, I once again approached Mr. Cook to obtain his assistance on curriculum development and classroom instruction. His performance in both areas were excellent. He was able to help put curriculum and lesson plans in a logical and easy to follow format. His teaching abilities once again were demonstrated when given the opportunity to teach a classroom full of Financial Literacy students. Mr. Cook didn't just teach the class in a meaningful way he captivated the room as if putting on a clinic. Consequently, our numbers for Financial Literacy grew from just 11 students to 3 full blown financial literacy classes taught at 3 different levels of difficulty.

Mr. Cook's work ethic and demonstrated character are exceptional. In addition, he is highly intelligent and very perceptive. His flexible nature made him invaluable in operating in a highly diverse environment where academic abilities varied greatly. He easily shared his own life challenges to effectively serve as object lessons for those students for whom he came in contact. He demonstrated the ability to be patient and positive while insisting upon accountability from his students.

As an educator and coach with 30 years of experience, corporate manager, and former Marine Corps Officer, I have been trained to identify and work with talented individuals. It has been a pleasure and an honor to work with Mr. Steve Cook and I would not hesitate to place him in a position that he would have the opportunity to teach study classes and work with students who are not on track to graduate. He would easily exceed any expectations surrounding this position. It is his nature to do so. Therefore, I would highly recommend Mr. Cook for the position of "Secondary Interventionist". Should you have any questions or need any further explanations I would be happy to provide additional information and may be contacted at

Sincerely,



Jack A. Dujanovic
Financial Literacy Instructor
Idaho Department of Corrections