

To Whom It May Concern,


I had the absolute pleasure of serving with Mrs. Rebecca Raber as a cooperating teacher during the 2010 spring semester at Shanley High School and Sullivan Middle School, in Fargo, North Dakota. In my capacity as student teacher for the high school and middle school choral program, I was able to witness firsthand Mrs. Raber's profound dedication and unequaled passion in developing her students musically, professionally, and personally.

Rebecca works collaboratively within her department and across academic disciplines to develop holistic and inventive curricula, always with the goal of enriching her students with a passion for music, a willful self-discipline, and a hunger for excellence that translates beyond the classroom. In a short few years, she has built a truly world-class choral program, instilling in students a practical understanding of diverse musical genres, deep and progressive understanding of musical theory and notation, profound appreciation for collaborative effort in rehearsal and performance, and above all, an intrinsic and unyielding desire for constant self-improvement and growth.

Mrs. Raber's passion for music, education, and student development is beyond infectious. One cannot help but be engrossed in her lessons, aligning always with clearly defined goals and guided expertly from start to completion—motivated always by a high standard of excellence and careful critique, both individually and within the ensemble. Her success in musical instruction is built upon careful and inspired preparation, passionate and challenging pacing, her own personal alignment with self-improvement, commitment to ever-compounding excellence, and a unique and positive attitude that impresses itself on anyone she meets. Students are drawn into Rebecca's encouraging countenance and are immensely successful because as they trust in her as their guide, they learn to trust themselves and discover their own powerful motivations. Students are expected to be leaders, and so they are, each one rising to the occasion, pushing themselves and others to a higher and higher level. As a fledgling teacher, witnessing the dynamic of her choirs was both inspiring and humbling.

I would, without any reservation, recommend Mrs. Rebecca Raber to any educating or directing position. She is truly a master in her craft, yet with even more depth than that. In the truest sense, the greatest master is also the most humble student—perhaps the most potent lesson I, and any other student, have learned from her.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Manlove', written in a cursive style.

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