

May 29, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am an instructor of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ELL) at the Menomonie campus of Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) in Menomonie, Wisconsin. I am writing this note as a recommendation for John Berner, who has applied for a teaching position in your district. Students in my ELL class at CVTC come from a wide range of backgrounds. All are adult learners who are in the United States for reasons ranging from employment, spouse of a student, or new immigrant, to recently arrived spouse of an American citizen. I present the class on multiple levels, depending upon the English language skill level of the learners involved. As part of the class, I use UW Stout education students who are required to work for 50 hours in a culturally diverse setting. The primary function of these students is to act as a conversation partner. I try to contract enough university tutors so that I can maintain a one-to-one blend in the class. This makes many activities go more smoothly, and I'm convinced the ELL students learn more quickly, as well as establishing a relationship with a native speaker. It was in this context that I met John.

In the twelve years I have been providing ELL instruction I have encountered a wide spectrum of UW Stout students. John stands out because of his willingness to initiate activity, his grasp of what the job required, and his ability to learn and adapt quickly. The ELL students accepted him quickly, and sought him out for assistance with assignments. I think he would make an excellent addition to your staff, and I have no reservations about recommending him.

If I can answer any questions or be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me my email at tstanton@cvtc.edu or by phone at either 715-235-5695 (home) or 715-308-3207 (cell). I am not teaching this summer, but I would be happy to assist in any way I can.

Sincerely,
Timothy Stanton, Instructor