

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to highly recommend Hannah Hizer for a teaching position. As a faculty member in Chatham University's Education Department, I have known Hannah since she began her studies here four years ago. I have worked closely with her as her academic advisor, taught her in multiple courses, and supervised her as a student worker in our department. In all these capacities, I can speak in the highest terms about her exceptional qualities as an emerging educator.

Hannah consistently stands out as one of the most dedicated, capable, and compassionate students in our program. She possesses outstanding communication skills that are well above average, enabling her to connect meaningfully with peers and faculty. Hannah is a true go-getter: she eagerly enrolled in as many courses as possible to deepen her knowledge base, demonstrating an insatiable curiosity and commitment to lifelong learning.

What truly sets Hannah apart is her profound care for young learners and her readiness to enter the classroom. During her student teaching placement, she earned a rare and exemplary score of 12 (out of 12) on the Pennsylvania Department of Education's PDE-430 form at the midpoint evaluation—a perfect rating across all four domains (Planning and Preparation, Classroom Environment, Instructional Delivery, and Professionalism). This achievement, attained by only a handful of candidates in our program over the years, reflects her exceptional performance from her very first observation. Her university supervisor raved about her preparedness, noting that Hannah arrived fully equipped to teach effectively and engage students right away.

Hannah is particularly adept at seeking and incorporating constant feedback to refine her practice, a hallmark of reflective, growth-oriented educators. She excels as a culturally responsive teacher who prioritizes equity and individual student needs.

In my courses on family/community partnerships and trauma-informed education, Hannah demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of using funds of knowledge and asset-based approaches when working with families and students. She recognizes that children come from varied backgrounds, and what may appear as a "behavior problem" often stems from deeper contextual factors. Hannah responds with empathy, patience, and evidence-based strategies to build supportive, inclusive environments where every student feels valued, safe, and motivated to grow.

Hannah's excellent time management, caring nature, and unwavering dedication make her an ideal fit for your school. She will not only contribute to your pursuit of academic excellence but also inspire students through her compassion and high standards. I recommend her without reservation and am confident she will be an outstanding addition to your team.

Please feel free to contact me at 412.365.1819 or clewis1@chatham.edu if you would like to discuss Hannah's qualifications further.

Sincerely,



Dr. Christie Lewis
Assistant Professor of Education

