## To Whom It May Concern:

Ruth Canji and I worked together at the beginning of the year when she took over the third grade classroom of my teammate due to an unexpected leave of absence. During that time she was hard working and dedicated to the needs of the students in her class.

Ruth began teaching in the second week of school before routines and procedures had been established. She was able to step in and create a climate of respect and support among her students. She also maintained excellent communication with the parents through newsletters and emails.

Ruth quickly became a member of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade team. She was eager to participate in team planning and was always willing to share her ideas. Ruth also worked in partnership with the district literacy coach to plan meaningful reading and writing instruction. She always asked good questions and was able to successfully implement suggestions from her colleagues.

It was clear to me that Ruth used a variety of teaching strategies to meet the needs of her students. She used guided reading to help readers develop skills, and hands on activities to keep students actively engaged. Ruth also worked to differentiate her instruction through the use of different learning activities and resources.

I feel that Ruth is highly motivated and truly interested in children and learning. She would be an asset in any school setting.

Sincerely,

Donna Del Vecchio Third Grade Teacher Orrington Elementary 773.381.1421 delvecchiod@district65.net