

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

May 14, 2014

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in support of **Jennifer Johnson's application for a position teaching science** in your school. I was one of Jennifer's instructors for 17 credits over two years in Michigan State University's teacher preparation program, so I know Jennifer well and recommend her to you without hesitation.

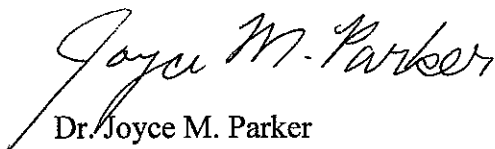
Michigan State University's teacher preparation program is a five-year program that includes a full year internship accompanied by four graduate level courses, as well as a major and a minor in subject matter for certification. Jennifer has earned biology and integrated science certifications.

Jennifer is one of our top teacher candidates. She earned high grades while balancing the responsibilities of a fulltime internship and graduate classes. But most of importantly, Jennifer approached her internship and courses with the goal of maximizing what she learned about teaching. She was thoughtful and energetic about everything she tackled – how to build relationships with her students, how to engage them in rigorous science content while keeping her classroom oriented to students' ideas, and how to relate pedagogical theory and practice. Because of this thoughtful approach, Jennifer was chosen to be the convocation speaker.

Jennifer's course work demonstrated that she is proficient with all aspects of reform-based science teaching including designing instruction based on national, state, and district guidelines; assessing students fairly and accurately and adjusting teaching based on the results; teaching both the content and process of science; supporting the learning of a diverse set of students; and managing a classroom. She is familiar with *The Next Generation Science Standards* and multiple strategies for motivating students. She is particularly good at finding examples of the science that interest her students.

In summary, I strongly recommend Jennifer. She will be an asset to whatever faculty she joins. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



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