

### **Bureau of Education & Research**

915 118th Avenue SE • PO Box 96068 • Bellevue, WA 98009-9668 Phone (800) 735-3503 • FAX (425) 453-1134 • www.ber.org

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my privilege to serve as Susan Fitzell's Professional Development Director at the Bureau of Education and Research (BER).

BER is the leading provider of staff development and training resources for educators in North America. Founded by educators in 1976, the Bureau has grown to provide national and regional training programs across the entire United States and Canada. The Bureau is especially proud of its outstanding presenters, all of whom have extensive practical experience in their content areas and many of whom are national and international leaders in their respective fields.

Susan Fitzell has served as a BER seminar leader for over 11 years. During that time, the Bureau has contracted Susan as an independent contractor to present 1-day seminars between October and May. Susan has presented to tens of thousands of special and general education teachers and paraprofessionals across North America on the latest topics of interest. Her presentations have included such topics as Inclusion and Response to Intervention (RTI) to name a few.

As Susan's Professional Development Director, it is my responsibility to work closely with her on the development and implementation of her seminars as well as to coach her, offering feedback for improvement, based on audience comments. Susan consistently receives outstanding evaluations from her seminar participants ranking on average 6.5 and higher on a 7.0 scale.

In my work with Susan, I have found her to be extremely loyal, honest and trustworthy as well as having high standards of professionalism and dedication. Susan has an uncanny ability to engage her audience and involve them in her presentation. Her seminars are as entertaining as they are informative. She brings a tremendous amount of energy, enthusiasm and expertise to her presentations.

Prior to my becoming a Professional Development Director with BER, I served as a staff development specialist for a large school district in western Washington and also served as principal at two different elementary schools. I have had the privilege of hiring and observing numerous professionals, I can say without hesitation that Susan Fitzell is one of the finest individuals and one of the most dedicated educators I have ever worked with. It is without reservation that I endorse Susan for the Certified Speaking Professional designation from the National Speakers Association.

Sincerely,

Mark D. Ita

Wah D. H

Professional Development Director Bureau of Education & Research

DIRECT: 1.877.821.5468 CELL: 206.369.8281 FAX: 425.451.4106 Email: mita@ber.org



# **Homestead High School**

### **Smaller Learning Communities**

4310 Homestead Road Fort Wayne, Indiana 46814

Phone: (260) 431-2252 Fax: (260) 431-2330

Dianne L. Moake, SLC Project Director dmoake@sacs.k12.in.us

Barbara A. Csicsko, SLC Coordinator besicsko@sacs.k12.in.us

February 23, 2010

Dear Susan,

This is a brief note to thank you for your consulting expertise. Recently, you came to our high school to help us with our core concept: *The greatest amount of success per student.* 

Since your workshop: Learning Strategies in the Classroom: New Roles in Response to Intervention, our departments have identified 3-5 instructional strategies to help inform their teaching practices.

I can't thank you enough for your enthusiasm, patience, commitment and attention to all of the details throughout the planning process. Teachers and administrators appreciated the concrete ideas, examples and the power of lively small group discussions. All were able to reflect, refresh, and replenish their instructional strategies toolbox.

Nearly all of our staff (99%) indicated that they plan to use the information in their classrooms, and slightly more than 9 out of 10 (91%), found the day to be very beneficial.

It was a pleasure to work with you and with your assistant, Jeff. We look forward to a follow up conversation in the very near future.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Csicsko

Smaller Learning Community Program Coordinator



Curriculum and School Leadership
Administrative Center Annex
500 North Central
Eureka, MO 63025-1203
636-938-2300 Phone
636-938-2347 Fax
E-Mail: mcdonnelljulie@rockwood.k12.mo.us

Julie McDonnell Elementary Instructional Coach for Assessment and Differentiation

Dear Susan,

I wanted to jot down this quick note to thank you for your speaking expertise. Recently, you came to our campus to help our teachers meet the challenge of educating our diverse population of students.

Your involvement and instructional support has been very helpful, and has helped promote a school-wide belief that ALL students can be successful learners, and that mutual trust and respect between students and teachers are vital to a supportive learning environment.

Since your seminar, we have implemented many of your learning strategies in the areas of classroom management, creating inclusive communities, differentiated instruction, as well as many helpful teacher tools. As a result, our school has been able to build their repertoire and utilize practices more effectively to help students succeed.

I can't thank you enough. We will continue to experience the benefits of your presentation for a very long time.

Sincerely

Julie McDonnell

Elementary Instructional Coach for Assessment and Differentiation



#### **Brent Williams** PRINCIPAL

# 2400 INSTITUTE ROAD

North Lenoir High School

LAGRANGE, NORTH CAROLINA 28551

Telephone: (252) 527-9184 Fax: (252) 527-8672

Pamela Heath ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dawn Edwards ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

October 13, 2009

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to recommend the professional development services of Susan Fitzell. I was fortunate to work with Susan over the last two years in a middle school as she helped us to implement the co-teaching model in our classrooms. Susan provided high quality, sustained whole-staff training in differentiation strategies and in instructional strategies for promoting successful co-teaching instructional team building. She worked very hard to provide support and to help our teachers develop as co-teachers. Her large group professional development sessions were supported by individualized in-the-classroom instructional coaching. Susan's intensive intervention and coaching services over the last three years have had a tremendous impact on student achievement in our school. With Susan's instructional help and consistent classroom coaching support, we were able to make our Adequate Yearly Progress (A.Y.P.) target goals in reading and math for the first time in the history of our school.

Susan has a strong and positive ability to relate to teachers and to support and guide them with focused feedback as she becomes a member of the school's instructional team. Susan is very good at assessing exactly what needs to be done within the school and providing focused and prioritized strategies for school-based and district-level administrators as a part of the school improvement process.

Susan Fitzell is an outstanding presenter and professional development specialist. She is an asset to any school or district with whom she works. Her strategies for differentiated instruction and inclusive instructional change will help schools to improve quickly. Susan Fitzell has my highest recommendation.

Sincerely, renthall

Brent Williams, Principal



### To Whom It May Concern,

I was chairperson for this year's fall conference, and Susan was one of our keynote speakers and one of our main presenters. We had a wonderful time with Susan – lots of great feedback. Her keynote was fantastic. What I really liked was she brought out, for our parents and educators, contributions that famous people with disabilities have made, and actually woven in people with Down syndrome, as well as one of our fellow speakers, so she was really great. I've heard lots of comments from her other sessions that the information she gave them includes techniques they can take back with them and actually utilize in their classrooms right away. It was overall a great experience working with her. –

Maureen Tignor,

Dallas Down Syndrome Guild

Northern Cambria School District

601 JOSEPH STREET, NORTHERN CAMBRIA, PA 15714-1232 TELEPHONE: 814.948.5481 FAX: 814.948.6058

THOMAS A. ESTEP III, ED.D.

testep@ncsd.k12.pa.us

JENNIE IVORY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE jivory@ncsd.k12.pa.us WORLD WIDE WEB: www.ncsd.k12.pa.us

MARILYN A. WARGO

FEDERAL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR mwargo@ncsd.k12.pa.us

iwai go@iicsd.k i z.pa.us

JOSEPH A. HOMERSKI TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR jhomerski@ncsd.k12.pa.us

JOY L. TIBBOTT SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR jtibbott@ncsd.k12.pa.us

Dear Susan,

I heard about your inspiring Professional Development Workshops through the Bureau of Education and I was excited to attend.

From the time I walked into the room, I was intrigued. Your presentation style and electric personality captivates the audience - small or large, and empowers each workshop participant to become the best educator s/he can.

Your dynamic delivery of the material and comfort with sharing your personal experiences as an educator cultivates confidence into any new teacher. You are very convincing in each topic you present, and are more than willing to share your knowledge to the audience.

You clearly love what you do and truly care about the children's educational welfare. Thank you for the inspiration.

Joy L. Tibbott

Director of Special Education

Northern Cambria School District

Please sign here to give permission to use this note as a testimonial to market my services.

Thank you very much.

Signature:



# Nederland Independent School District

### **CURRICULUM OFFICE**

Stuart B. Kieschnick
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Instruction

August 22, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Susan Fitzell and her company AIMHI Education Programs. I have personally witnessed Mrs. Fitzell's outstanding presentation. Mrs. Fitzell's presentation was interactive, practical, and user friendly. Our core area teachers received invaluable tips, strategies, and differentiated instruction techniques.

I fully endorse Mrs. Susan Fitzell.

Sincerely,

Stuart Kieschnick

Assistant Superintendent for curriculum & Instruction

SK/tm

### BERKLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

21 North Main Street Berkley, MA 02779 Kimberly Hebert Principal

William Welch Assistant Principal

508-884-9434

Fax: 508-823-1772

Dear Susan,

I heard about your Professional Development Workshops through 2 of my teachers who were fortunate enough to attend one of your workshops during the academic year. When they returned, they were eager to hear more. I was excited to see what we could put together to have you join my staff here at our school for a summer Professional Development experience.

From the time you walked into the room, we were captivated by your energy and enthusiasm. Your presentation style and energetic personality held the audience's attention and interest and empowered each workshop participant to become the best educator s/he can.

Your hands-on and relevant delivery of the material and comfort with sharing your personal experiences as an educator cultivated confidence in our teachers. You were very knowledgeable in each topic you presented, and were more than willing to share your knowledge with the audience.

You clearly love what you do and truly care about the children's educational welfare. Thank you for the inspiration.

Name: Kimberly D. Hebert

Title: Principal

Organization: Berkley Middle School

Please sign here to give permission to use this note as a testimonial to market my services.

Thank you very much.

Signature: Kimberly Hobert

September 17, 2010

Susan Fitzell, Educational Consultant P.O. Box 6182 Manchester, New Hampshire 03108

Dear Susan,

Meade School District would like to express our sincere appreciation to you for providing the educators of or our schools with an upbeat presentation to kick off the new school year! Your message provided simple techniques and strategies which could be implemented into almost any type of educational setting!

Your background and methods of presenting allowed educators to remain open minded to your message. You indicated in the opening to your audience that you did not have all the answers, but you did have experiences where the implementation of strategies were successful. This allowed the audience to embrace your message as you shared a mutual bond of being in the "trenches"!

Meade School District educators have implemented many of your strategies in the course of the first couple of weeks of school. As a district wide employee, I have observed the utilization of the beaded key rings to aid students in remaining focused, mandalas to activate the right brain, and the Fitzpell method of studying words to name a few. All methods and strategies presented on instruction were practical and could easily be modified for any type of setting. Educators were able to collaborate on the varying strategies and determine what methods may be most beneficial for individual students.

The book each staff member received will prove to be an ongoing resource for our staff as we continue to build upon our inclusive environment. Thank you again for the wealth of knowledge provided to our educators!

Sincerely,

Chantal Ligtenberg Chantal Ligtenberg

hantal gtenberg, ssistant to ne Director f Special ervices

eade School istrict 130 Douglas reet urgis, SD 57785

ione: (605)347-

ix: (605)347-

I hereby give permission to use this as a testimonial to market your services. Thank you very much.

# **Fayette County Board of Education**



III Fayette Avenue Fayetteville, West Virginia 25840 304-574-1176

Susan Fitzell's workshops are by far the most superior I have ever attended. You can feel the energy level and excitement in the room. The evaluations received from the teachers in my district have surpassed all others. The information and the strategies she presents are very beneficial for all students. Her book, "Special Needs in the General Classroom Strategies That Make It Work," is a valuable resource for any teacher. I look forward to working with Susan in the future.

Nancy Price,

Director of Special Education Fayette County Schools 111 Fayette Avenue Fayetteville, WV 25840

304-574-1176 ext. 2165

### Office of the Superintendent Bow School District, SAU #67

32 White Rock Hill Road Bow, NH 03304-4219

Dr. Dean S. T. Cascadden Superintendent of Schools dcascadden@bownet.org **Duane Ford** 

Business Administrator dford@bownet.org

Phone: 603-224-4728

Website: www.bownet.org

Fax: 603-224-4111

January 12, 2009

To whom it may concern,

I have known Susan Fitzell for four years and she has been contracted to do Professional Development in both districts where I have been Superintendent. She is an outstanding presenter and a great speaker. She is clear and engaging. I have seen few people with her ability to effectively work a large crowd. She is able to connect to a diverse audience. She engaged professional staff and para-educators equally well by presenting material that was relevant to each employee's every day work life.

She is very empathetic and relates well to the audience. Her presentations are well paced and have a lot of movement and processing breaks. She is one of the few presenters I have seen that teaches about active instruction and actually models it in her own work. Her visuals and back up material are clear and well thought out and support her speaking very well.

If you need further testimonials, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Dean S. T. Cascadden

Superintendent, Bow School District

# Walnut Hill

81 Chester Road, Raymond New Hampshire 03077; Telephone 603 895-2437

January 12, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to endorse with enthusiasm Ms Susan Fitzell as a presenter of workshops and speaker to educational organizations. Ms Fitzell has been presenting for our organization for well over a decade with her most recent presentation in July 2007. She is an excellent presenter and is able to engage and educate each group with whom she works.

Her presentations are well disciplined yet personal and she has a good connection with her audience. Her evaluations are consistently excellent and we continue to get requests to have her on our programs. We always know that we will get a good turn out when Ms Fitzell is making a presentation and endorse her as an excellent presenter and workshop leader.

Sincerely,

Fritz Bell Director

www.creativeclassrooms.org



### Northeast Regional Education Cooperative Lorenzo Marquez, Director

PO Box 927 ~ Las Vegas, NM 87701 ~ 505-426-2262 ~ fax 505-454-1473 ~ rec4@nmhu.edu ~ www.rec4.com

Fr: Lisa Burciaga Segura, Special Education Resource and Training Coordinator

Date: 1-12-09

Subject: Speaker Endorsement

To Whom It May Concern,

I am corresponding with you in this fashion in order to endorse Susan Gingras Fitzell as a speaker with whom I have had the privilege to work. I first was introduced to Susan via a professional development training that I had attended in Albuquerque, NM over 5 years ago. Since that time, I have utilized the resources that she has provided in trainings of my own as a Special Education Resource and Training Coordinator working in one of nine Regional Education Cooperatives here in the state of New Mexico. Susan's training style and the information that she presents is absolutely timely, relevant, user-friendly and EFFECTIVE! Her presentations and training materials provide the audience with hands-on strategies that can be taken back to schools and used immediately. We here at the NEREC have brought Susan in on two occasions for professional development in the area of Differentiated Instruction; the first engagement was for school districts in our region only and the second engagement, just 3 months ago, was offered to districts statewide. I highly recommend Susan as a speaker and would jump at the chance to bring her back at any time and plan to do so in the near future. Simply put, Susan's trainings provide information in a way that is fun, memorable, useful and meaningful to anyone who wants to improve outcomes for all types of learners. What I have learned from Susan has made me a better teacher and trainer too!

Respectfully,

Lisa A. Burciaga Segura

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### GREENE SO SULLIVAN

# Special Education Cooperative 77 "A" Street N.E. Linton, Indiana 47441

January 12, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

It gives me great pleasure to recommend Susan Fitzell to the National Speaker's Accreditation. I first met Susan at a workshop held in Indianapolis, Indiana. We had twenty one staff members attend just by the flyer advertisement. When you attend such workshops you never really know what the presentation will be like. Susan was such a dynamic presenter with such practical and useful suggestions, I called the Superintendent of our district to request having Susan come locally and present to our entire staff. We were beginning differentiated instruction in the general education classroom. The Superintendent approved my request since all twenty one of us were so enthusiastic following the day long presentation. We invited our staff and staff from the near by school districts. When the Superintendent heard Susan's practical and empowered presentation, she made it mandatory for all of our teachers to attend. Over the course of a year and a half, we had Susan back four times. In the thirty-four years with the school district, this is the only time we have had a presenter repeat the workshop for all staff. Since I was in charge of the organization of the workshops, I sat through each session. Susan was able to answer questions presented and get staff to go back to their classrooms and make numerous major changes for our districts and students.

It is truly hard to find a presenter to the level of expertise and empower change as Susan did for our districts.

Thank you for your considerations for Susan, she is a dynamite presenter.

Ginny Phegley, Psychologist Independent Practice 10344

### SPECIAL SERVICES

JOHNSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

300 South Spruce Buffalo WY 82834 Phone (307) 684-1728 Fax (307) 684-1730

Susan A Fitzell AimHi Educational Programs PO Box 6182 Manchester, NH 03103 September 23, 2008

Dear Ms. Fitzell,

I wanted to write and thank you for the outstanding training you delivered to our secondary staff this fall. In addition to being quite engaging for the adult learners, the information was extremely useful and relevant. In my years as director of special education programs I've never held a training with as much benefit for the wide range of skills and knowledge of a typical group of educators. From newly hired staff fresh out of college to highly qualified teachers with decades of experience, all the feedback I got following your day of training was overwhelmingly positive. We continue to share the knowledge we gained from you with the people in other grade levels and even with our technology department. We will be holding a training later this month for our para-educators from across the district sharing much of the information we gained from you. I was also glad to share your information with other special education directors from across Wyoming at our recent fall conference. Thank you for your excellent work.

Sincerely,

Timothy O'Gan, Director

## STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT R-II

375 North Fifth Street Ste. Genevieve, Missouri 63670

SHELLEY C. JOKERST Assistant Superintendent (573) 883-4500 FAX (573) 883-5957

November 14, 2008

Susan A. Fitzell AimHi Educational Programs PO Box 6182 Manchester, NH 03103

Dear Susan,

Thank you so much for your presentation to our faculty. Even though the group was large, you kept them with you and engaged with the material for the entire day. Your presentation and your materials were packed with ideas and strategies that teachers could take back and use the very next day in class. As I have visited classrooms during the rest of this week, I have seen your strategies in use—music playing, softer lighting, the use of more color in notes on whiteboards and even one class where pairs of students were creating cards for Three Card Match! Seldom have I seen so many ideas from a workshop go into immediate practice in classrooms at all grade levels.

Your presentational style was very engaging. You shared with teachers from the perspective of another teacher and parent who had experienced the very same, very real problems. You then went a step further and shared strategies to address the problems that had a proven track record from your very own practice. Teachers felt that you had walked in their shoes and spoke their language.

A principal from an area alternative school was with me at the presentation that day. She left so excited by the ideas—she had three whole pages of things to share with her teachers. She especially liked all the ideas about what to do with restless students that won't cause further distraction and allows them to meet their need to fidget. She stopped on the way home and bought sponge rollers, beads and key rings, saying, "This will keep some of my kiddos from getting sent to the office for distracting others."

Thanks again for your work with our district. You really hit the nail on the head with our needs!

Sincerely,

Shelley C. Jökerst

Assistant Superintendent

Shelley C. Jokerst

SCJ:rb

ACCREDITED



Maine School Administrative District No. 29 Bird Street, Houlton, Maine 04730

Tele: 207-532-6551 Fax: 207-532-6282 Principal Marty L. Bouchard

Vice Principal Dawn Y. Matthews

Guidance Director Hollie J. McPartland

OF SCHOOLS & COLLEGES, INC.

Dear Susan.

I appreciate your presentation on co-teaching and the significance of educators to work through their personal differences for the sake of the children. Your insight and understanding as well as your personal way of presenting the facts clearly illustrates your firm grasp of the effects that teachers have over students' lives.

By putting aside personal opinions and working cohesively as a unit, co-teaching utilizes each educator's unique teaching strategies, assessments, and personal strengths, resulting in the overall educational benefit of the children.

You drove it home when you said that mutual trust and respect are the keys to a successful coteaching environment. And with this success comes the greatest benefit - the children learn! Thank you!

Dear Reader,

As the coordinator for a statewide conference on inclusive education, I have had the good fortune to have Susan Fitzell as a program presenter for at least five years.

Susan's expertise in Co-Teaching, Indicators of Effective Inclusive Practices, RTI, Paraeducator-Teacher Partnerships and Effective Instructional Strategies to Support Inclusion have proven invaluable additions to the conference program. Her clear presentation style promotes an environment in which participant learning is paramount and accomplished with ease.

Susan's participant evaluations indicate that her strategies and techniques will be easy for participants to implement immediately when they return to their districts and classrooms; they report that the strategies and techniques are relevant, realistic and useful. Teachers feel that she has walked in their shoes (because she has), and this fact evokes willingness on the part of participants to relax and learn from her.

I recommend Susan Fitzell heartily and without reservation as a presenter and AIMHI Educational Programs as a vendor at any conference at which educators, school administrators and families concerned with quality education are in attendance.

Sincerely,
Charlene Comstock-Galagan
Training and Development Coordinator
Families Helping Families of Jefferson

Please sign here to give permission to use this note as a testimonial to market my services. Thank you very much.

Signature: C. Comstock-Galagan



### Overbrook Administrative Center 2140 Saw Mill Run Blvd. Pittsburgh, PA 15210

September 16, 2011

Dear Susan,

Thank you very much for the outstanding presentation you provided for our staff. The material you presented was very useful and informative. Your presentation style was very dynamic and the stories you told could only come from someone who had walked in a teacher's shoes.

You covered a broad range of subjects that were very timely and pertinent to any teacher, from the fresh-out-of-college group to well-seasoned veterans with decades of teaching experience. The strategies you covered are easy to implement and are highly effective tools with proven records of accomplishment from your very own experience as an educator.

We are very excited to put them to practice and watch our children grow and benefit from your expertise.

Sincerely,

Marianne Trachok Inclusion Facilitator Pittsburgh Public Schools

### Lake Hamilton School District

Office of Special Services 205 Wolf Street Pearcy, Arkansas 71964

Kay B. Ekey Director Telephone: 501-767-8444 Fax: 501-760-6550

September 28, 2011

Susan A Fitzell, M.Ed AIMHI Educational Programs P.O. Box 6182 Manchester, NH 03108

Dear Ms. Fitzell,

I attended your Co-Teaching seminar in Springfield, MO in December 2010. Fourteen other teachers and administrators made the five hour drive from Lake Hamilton School District in Arkansas to attend. Your presentation style and gregarious personality really made the workshop fun and interesting. You kept everyone engaged.

Because of the overwhelming positive response from the LHSD staff, I made arrangements for you to present that seminar on our campus. Several of the same teachers were in attendance again as well as other general and special education teachers who had not seen you present. Even though it was just two days until the start of classes everyone felt it was time well spent. All of the teachers found your wide array of tips and strategies practical and helpful.

You obviously love what you do and care about our learners. You share your expertise in an effective and professional manner. Thank you for an inspiring and enjoyable workshop.

Sincerely,

Kay B. Ekey

**Director of Special Services** 

# Camden Hills Regional High School

We are a community of learners

Dr. Nick Ithomitis Principal

Bill Hughes Athletic Director



Graham Bode Assistant Principal

Piet Lammert Assistant Principal

Carol Coyle Special Education Teacher/Department Chair Sept. 27, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Last fall I attended a Co-Teaching workshop sponsored by the Bureau of Educational Research in Portland. Maine. Susan Fitzell was the presenter; I was amazed by her presentation techniques for she provided a very thought-provoking overview on several aspects of co-teaching. The workshop day flew and by the end I was determined to speak to Susan about accomplishing a co-teaching workshop at Camden Hills Regional High School (CHRHS) where I teach.

Susan's presentation on co-teaching flowed flawlessly; she is articulate, humorous and allows time for clarifying questions. Furthermore, it's obvious that Susan is not only very knowledgeable about co-teaching, but she is passionate about various models that not only supports teachers yet students as well. Susan presented practical classroom strategies that are researched based and proven to work.

Additionally, Susan delivered a couple workbooks and highlighted strategies in parts of her book yet pointed out particular pages for folks to look up later on their own. This enabled us to pay attention to Susan's presentation and not worry about taking notes.

Susan went on to explain the basics of what co-teaching is and what it is not. She provided real life scenarios from past experiences in regard to what works and what clearly does not. She emphasized the benefits of co-teaching as well as several approaches. Susan showed a video from unrehearsed teachers speaking to their co-teaching experience. We viewed another video highlighting students and teachers in the classroom with co-teaching working. The crucial piece for me, you could not tell the special education teacher from the mainstream math teacher. As a special education professional, the video was important evidence that co-teaching is successful when accomplished correctly. Susan went on to present the roles and responsibilities of co-teachers and how challenges may arise; for this reason, it remains paramount to collaborate with one another on a regular basis. These are just a few of the co-teaching components Susan eloquently described.

I am delighted I was able to secure Susan accomplishing a co-teaching workshop at CHRHS this fall. Eighteen teachers, the assistant superintendent and the superintendent attended and were thankful for the opportunity to be part of a collaborative strategy of teaching students. Three special education teachers are currently co-teaching at CHRHS and superintendent wants Susan to return for a follow-up. I feel this is a huge compliment in regard to the professionalism and effectiveness of Susan's co-teaching presentation.

Thank you for your time; if you have any further questions do not hesitate to call.

Carol Coyle

oyle

Elaine Smith
Ector County ISD
P.O. Box 3912
Odessa, Texas 79760

September 1, 2008

Dear Fellow Educators,

Across the nation, classrooms are moving toward a more inclusive setting for students with disabilities. I would like to share with you extraordinary training available from Susan Fitzell. From start to finish, Susan's enthusiasm and energy are contagious. The presentation "Special Needs in the General Education Classroom", includes Susan's book with the same title. She covers many practical strategies that can be immediately implemented in the classroom. Empowering general and special education teachers with the tools to reach all learners is the overlying theme throughout the day. Additionally, Susan shares her personal experiences, which build respect from those attending. I've attended this training several times both as a participant and as a facilitator. Each time I come away with something new and exciting to share with teachers I work with as a Special Education Supervisor.

Give your staff the opportunity to experience professional development that is much more than a 'sit and get' session. Staff leave energized and loaded with strategies they admittedly can't wait to implement.

Sincerely,

Elaine Smith
Interim Executive Director of Special Education
Ector County ISD
Odessa, Texas

From:

helene bickford <hbickford@sau53.org>

Sent:

Monday, December 19, 2011 1:40 PM

To:

sfitzell@aimhieducational.com; sfitzell@susanfitzell.com

Subject:

Endorsement

Hello Susan,

I am pleased that you asked me to send you an endorsement. It is always a pleasure working with you and I learn so much following your work whether it is on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, or regular email. Good luck in your endeavors and my best wished to you for a happy holiday season, especially in 2012!

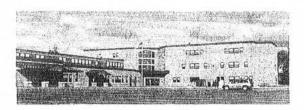
To whom it may concern:

Susan Fitzell is personable, creative, engaging, and really knows and delivers content well. She makes learning fun AND you walk away with lots of practical, use-tomorrow, ideas. A few of our teachers went to one of her workshops and demanded we bring her in to the district so that ALL our teachers could hear her and learn from her. We are glad she was able to come and I recommend her highly. She has much to share and delivers it well.

Sincerely,

Hélène Bickford Hélène Bickford Co-Superintendent SAU # 53 267 Pembroke Street Pembroke, NH 03275 T: 603-485-5187 F: 603-485-9529

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### **COLEBROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

27 Dumont Street, Colebrook, NH 03576 (603) 237-4270 (603) 237-4801 website: www.colebrook.k12.nh.us

Mary M. Jolles, Principal

Ryan E. Eames, Asst. Principal

December 19, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

I first met Susan Fitzell years ago (at least 17) as a teacher when I attended a workshop in southern New Hampshire on strategies to use with struggling students. After I became an elementary school principal, I invited Susan to come to our school to give workshops. She has come to Colebrook at least three times over the past 14 years. Her presentations have been on various topics, including learning styles, managing behaviors, meeting individual student needs, and differentiated instruction.

Susan is a dynamic presenter and is easy to listen to. Our teachers enjoyed Susan's presentations tremendously. She forms a bond with her audience because she has been a teacher too and is therefore very credible. Many of her sensible strategies are easy to implement and most of all... they work! The workshops are not just "sit and get" style presentations, either—teachers are actively engaged and busy in discussing issues or ideas in small groups and preparing short presentations of their own on various topics. After the workshop, Susan is available by telephone or email to answer questions or troubleshoot problems teachers might have.

I highly recommend any of her workshops to you as a professional development activity for your teachers and staff. You will not regret it!

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Mary M. Jolles, Principal Colebrook Elementary School 27 Dumont Street Colebrook, NH 03576 603-237-4801 mjolles@colebrook.k12.nh.us

From:

MacMillan, Kay <kay.macmillan@unh.edu>

Sent:

Tuesday, December 20, 2011 1:47 PM

To:

sfitzell@susanfitzell.com

Subject:

Recommendation

Dear Susan,

Thank you very much for the outstanding workshops you presented for the University of New Hampshire. The topics you presented-- anger management, bullying, successful test taking strategies, and others in your extensive repertoire-received the highest praise from our participants. Their numerical ratings placed you in the top category for organization, stimulation of interest, accessibility to them and overall rating.

Their comments on the class evaluations about what they liked most included were very heartfelt. These included: "Fantastic! Thank you"; "This (workshop) and your methods are great!"; "Well organized, knowledgeable and on track" "Everything, dynamic, useful"; "Susan was full of energy with incredible ideas! I was so impressed with her presentation" "Concrete strategies-just what I was looking for"

Aside from all this your professionalism in working with me to schedule and deliver the workshop is well appreciated by me and my staff. Thank you.

Kay MacMillan Coordinator University of New Hampshire Professional Development & Training

From:

Gresham, Annette < greshama@delavanschools.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, December 20, 2011 2:25 PM

To:

sfitzell@susanfitzell.com

Subject:

Thank you for all you have done for our teachers and students!

I have known Susan Fitzell for four years and have attended many of her Professional Development Workshops and have even brought her into our district for whole day training with the entire district. I have personally conferred with Susan on many topics in education from co-teaching to RtI at the secondary level.

Susan is very dynamic and communicates well to her audience. Her presentations are always energetic and ideas are easy to implement. The presentation materials are helpful to any educator's daily work and her visual and back-up materials are beneficial for true understanding. Teacher's can easily use and put into practice what they have learned from Susan in their classrooms right away.

Susan was instrumental in the success of inclusion in our district. Teachers were excited to work with students who where in special education within the general education setting after the professional development they received from Susan.

She is not just another typical presenter. Susan supports her words with <u>proven</u> strategies and techniques- from her own experiences! This is priceless!

I highly recommend attending at least one of her empowering workshops.

Thank you,
Annette Gresham
Director of Special Education/Curriculum/Rtl
Delavan Community School District 703
Formerly at: Havana Community School District 126

Annette Gresham
Director of Special Ed./Curriculum

Delavan CUSD 703 309-244-7740

From:

Lori Langlois <lori@ncedservices.org>

Sent:

Thursday, December 22, 2011 9:33 AM

To:

Susan Fitzell

Subject:

Susan Fitzell letter of endorsement

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Dear Reader,

I have interacted with Susan Fitzell for over a decade and her professionalism and dedication stand out amongst the hundreds of presenters I have worked with over the years. Susan's passion for the topics she speaks on is very evident. Through sharing her experiences and providing strategies to teachers, I feel she instills confidence and inspires participants to make changes that benefit students.

One aspect that distinguishes Susan from most presenters is her attention to detail. From the arrangement of the room, to materials on the tables, to visuals, and being conscious of her presence in the room, no detail is too trivial to warrant her attention. Yes, most presenters pay heed to these details, but not to the extent that Susan does. Not that these nuisances are apparent to participants, but having worked with Susan in the setup of large group presentations, I know the forethought and planning that has gone into each event. Susan is truly a professional presenter and has worked to refine, hone and perfect her skills as a presenter.

Lori Langlois, M.Ed.
Associate Executive Director
North Country Education Services
300 Gorham Hill Road
Gorham, NH 03581
603-466-5437 ext 108

From: Vicki Lilley <vlilley@dlsisd.org>

Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2011 12:59 PM

To: sfitzell@susanfitzell.com

Subject: Thank You

Dear Susan,

I wanted to send you this quick note to thank you for the seminars you presented for our district. Recently, you came to our junior high school campus to help our teachers meet the enormous challenge of educating our students with disabilities in the inclusive classroom.

Your involvement and instructional support has been very valuable to our campus. You have helped promote a school-wide belief that **ALL** students can be successful learners and that mutual trust and respect between students and teachers are vital to an effective learning environment.

Since your seminar, we have implemented many of your practical teaching strategies and as a result, our school has been able to set high standards and maximize learning for our special needs students. Our teachers are thrilled with the results they are seeing.

I can't thank you enough. We will continue to experience the benefits of your consultation for a very long time.

Sincerely,

Vicki Lilley
Director of Special Education
Daingerfield-Lone Star Independent School District
903-645-5081



Interlocal #603 • 710 Bridge Street • P.O. Box 207 • Humboldt, KS 66748 • 620-473-2257 • www.anwcoop.com

Dear Susan,

After 2 other attempts to schedule you as our keynote presenter August 2010 was our lucky month! We really appreciate your presentation on co-teaching and the significance of educators to work through their personal differences for the sake of our children. Your insight and understanding as well as your no holes barred way of presenting the facts clearly illustrates your firm grasp of the effects that teachers have over students' lives.

I have also received so many great comments from our paraprofessionals after your paraprofessionals working with teachers presentation. In fact they have asked if we can bring you back for the same presentation to the regular education staff they work with.

Both presentations were so timely in the message you gave. Mutual trust and respect are the keys to a successful learning environment for all children when adults have that cohesive working relationship.

Our staff were energized and ready to take on the new year armed with your tried and true strategies. This will ensure our children learn and our working relationships with our regular education partners are better than ever.

You're the best!

Sincerely

Cindy Folk

Personnel Clerk

ANW Education Cooperative



### Cedar Elementary School 2823 Ninth Street SW Canton, OH 44710

To Whom It May Concern,

I initially attended three of Susan Fitzell's workshops with colleagues from my school. As teachers, we were two co-teaching teams and wanted to implement best practices that would reach all of our students. The information Susan presented was powerful, practical and very easy to implement. Susan's passion for reaching all students was quite contagious. We implemented strategies in our classrooms immediately and anxiously waited for Susan's next workshop.

As a lead teacher within my building, I suggested we use professional development funds to make Susan Fitzell available to all of our staff. I was given the opportunity to plan and schedule a two day workshop. The workshops Susan presented to our staff and staff from two additional schools included: Special Needs in the General Classroom: How Do We Make It Work and Coteaching, Teamwork & Inclusion: Critical Understandings & Practical Strategies for Success.

Susan worked with me personally to customize each workshop to meet the needs of our buildings. Her presentation style captivated teachers both days. While Susan's workshops for our entire staff empowered teachers with skills to reach all children, it also taught teachers how to effectively become part of a successful co-taught team.

Susan Fitzell's workshops have greatly impacted instruction, relationships, and student achievement in our building. Teachers are more empowered than ever. We will reach every child!

Diana Fox Intervention Specialist Canton City Schools 330 580 3502

Please sign here to give permission to use this note as a testimonial to market my services. Thank you very much. Signature