



May30, 2019

To whom it may concern:

It is an honor to write this letter of reference for Jessica Benson. Since Jessica joined American International School of Utah (AISU) this year she has continued to demonstrate a combination of skills and passion that would benefit any organization but are invaluable in schools.

Jessica started the year as a very overqualified Teachers Assistant. In fact, when I first interviewed her I hesitated a bit as I wanted to make sure she understood the position to ensure it was a good fit for her. She let me know that she was dedicated to learning everything she needed to about education and so it was important for her to start as a TA. Within days it was clear that Jessica was going to bring all of her talents and energy to anything she did. She immediately delved into building relationships with students to help with classroom management. Furthermore, she created weekly emails and classroom groups online that allowed the her and the teacher to communicate better with parents.

In the first month of the school year, the classroom teacher experienced unexpected health problems and needed to resign. Although this was difficult on the school, it was made much easier when Jessica's colleagues and parents rallied around Jessica and overwhelmingly supported her to step up as the lead teacher. It was inspiring to watch her bring so much creativity and innovation to her classroom. Some of her above-and-beyond efforts included starting our Coding Club, hosting a Science Fair, and all the while spending countless hours in Montessori trainings and after-hour studying, and then implementing, curriculum and pedagogy in meaningful lesson plans.

Her creativity and dedication went far beyond the classroom as she was able to work with Apple Computers and other corporate sponsors to donate resources. She built relationships with our parent community and organized our most successful movie night fundraiser of the year. Also, our school experienced extreme turmoil this year, and I observed that many of her colleagues relied on her wisdom and experience for moral support and leadership.

It has been a joy working with Jessica this year. I have no doubt she will continue to bring all of her skills and energy to the classroom, and any school will be a better place because of her passion and dedication. I am happy to give her my highest recommendation. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any other questions at [tasi.young@aisutah.org](mailto:tasi.young@aisutah.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tasi Young", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Tasi Young  
Executive Director