



Avon Grove School District

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February 26, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to recommend Mr. George Allen for your consideration as a candidate for the Doctoral Program at the University of Delaware. I have had the pleasure and privilege of working with Mr. Allen over the past three years in the Avon Grove School District where he serves as a middle school social studies teacher. During this time period, Mr. Allen has consistently exhibited strong leadership skills, exceptional knowledge of educational pedagogy, and attributes of a life-long learner.

Mr. Allen is first and foremost an outstanding classroom teacher. His content knowledge is strong, his instructional practices grounded in research, his day-to-day instruction engaging, and his ability to meet the needs of diverse learners outstanding.

Mr. Allen's possesses strong leadership skills earning him the respect of both administrators and colleagues with whom he works. He has demonstrated these skills through his service on the District Social Studies Leadership Team. As a teacher leader for the middle school, he has guided the work of his team in the development of the social studies curriculum utilizing the *Understanding by Design* curriculum framework. Additionally, Mr. Allen served as a key member of the District Strategic Plan Steering Committee, assisting with the development of a five year Strategic Plan.

Mr. Allen demonstrates all qualities of a life long learner. He continuously pursues opportunities to grow both professionally and personally. Based upon the aforementioned attributes, I strongly endorse Mr. Allen's candidacy as a student in the Doctoral Program at the University of Delaware.

Sincerely,

Margaret V. Sharp, Ed. D.
Assistant Superintendent