



October 13, 2025

It is my pleasure to be able to speak to the character and work ethic of Ms. Sydney Daris. Sydney is a dedicated and compassionate early childhood educator with a strong passion for both teaching and learning. She consistently seeks opportunities to grow, reflect, and lead within the field of education, and she is an absolute delight to work with.

During her time at the University of Central Missouri, Sydney demonstrated a deep commitment to student learning and professional excellence. She has designed, implemented, and analyzed instructional practices across multiple grade levels, applying data-driven decision-making to enhance student outcomes. During her student teaching at Highland Park Elementary, she developed and implemented a four-week differentiated math intervention that led to measurable improvement in student fluency and conceptual understanding. Sydney's ability to apply feedback, utilize the Concrete, Representational, Abstract model, and foster a student-centered classroom reflects her strong grasp of effective early childhood pedagogy.

Beyond her classroom experience, Sydney has shown exceptional leadership and initiative. She has served as a substitute teacher across multiple grade levels in the Warrensburg School District, earning repeat requests for her ability to create structured, positive learning environments. Sydney also balances her professional growth with coaching and mentorship, serving as an Assistant Goalkeeper Coach at Avila University, where she applies her instructional skills to athletic development.

Sydney has also earned certificates in *Understanding the Child in Early Childhood Education*, *Community Partnerships in Early Childhood Education*, and *Teaching in the Early Childhood Classroom*. These achievements reflect her commitment to understanding the whole child, building strong partnerships, and implementing best practices that support each learner.

After summarizing Ms. Daris's abilities, I am confident she will be an excellent educator. Sydney has a kind and approachable disposition, works collaboratively with peers and colleagues, and always places the needs of her students at the center of her work. She will be an asset to any school district and will continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of young learners.

Thank you,

Dr. Natalie Tye, Professor

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