



March 20, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter on behalf of Derek Bryant. Derek was a student teacher in the Social Studies Department at Concord High School in Elkhart, Indiana during the 2015 academic year. Derek taught two sections of Geography and History of the World. Using a thematic approach, this course challenges both teachers and students to blend curriculum, identify change over time, and recognize the role that geography plays in history. Derek displayed great professionalism during his time student teaching and went out of his way to collaborate with other teachers. He continued to enforce the expectations that I had for my students while he was in charge of the class. This helped ensure a smooth transition when I took over at the end of his placement.

Derek came to school each day with a positive attitude that made working with other faculty and students enjoyable. During his student teaching assignment, I observed Derek using a variety of strategies such as cooperative learning, web based activities, student directed skits, article analysis, and a variety of note taking strategies. Derek was able to segment his lessons with these activities, which helped students stay on task. Derek's experience at Concord also included several full staff meetings, department meetings, and prep period workshops.

In addition to teaching, Derek is also a volunteer assistant coach for Concord's varsity baseball team. It is clear that he is dedicated to students both in the classroom and on the field. Derek would make a worthy addition to your teaching staff. If you have any other questions or wish to speak further, please feel free to call me at 574-849-3641 or e-mail me at: [tmartin@concord.k12.in.us](mailto:tmartin@concord.k12.in.us).

Sincerely,

Thomas Martin  
Social Studies Educator  
Concord High School