

To Whom It May Concern:

I gladly take the time to recommend Brett Drugge for a much deserved opportunity in education to offer what he so sincerely has to give. The students of our Children's University had the chance to meet Mr. Drugge this past summer on the Seattle University campus.

I find him to be much more than just an interesting individual as a young man who's chosen Early Education as his profession. I meet, train and supervise young people who work with children everyday. I am very blessed to have these crossings, so I know when someone is special on this path. Brett is of the character that has an innate positive quality. The kind that teachers with imagination and immovable convictions steeped in a belief in humanity must have to meet and serve the needs of youth today. Those who believe the promise of our school system is still something possible to fulfill. Mr. Drugge may be considered an idealist, but the teacher insensitive to dream will keep passion little in their teaching.

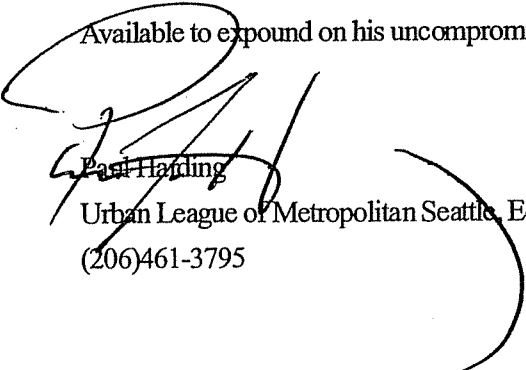
I have discussed serious literature, world events, cultures beyond this one, the political history that constitutes so much of the policies and perceptions of today's affairs with this born teacher. Whether I stood on the same side of the fence as him in certain views and attitudes is not significant unless one looks at the value of my experience and exposure in arenas of education in too many parts of this America—from Brooklyn to Buffalo to San Francisco to Seattle. I come from a long line of teachers, and consider no vocation as noble or humble.

We talked about the paramount ability of young peoples around the world coming here able to converse with our youth while having their own sturdy cultural identity; talked about how our youth are not being able to do the same elsewhere. Talked about library cards and passports not being stamped enough here. Talked about the tragedy of the ingredients of the arts and humanities being removed from the schools. The blood being sucked out of the halls of creativity and harmony among the youngest. More than talked about what we need to do. I saw him do! And you can see such in the children's response to him. Our kids loved him!

Mr. Drugge is truly about the welfare of humankind while having the courage to pursue the heart of our social truths while giving back what he sees in the soul of what's invaluable to our survival and hope. He knows all people are talented. That we are often in the room with gifts. That only children are geniuses.

Please know he is the kind of future educator who will bring much more than a lesson plan to the classroom. Always ready to help out when he could and in the most spontaneous situations, I suspect Brett Drugge will need a special mind and heart just to recognize the good he's made of. The depth of the good he's got to give.

Available to expound on his uncompromising traits whenever.



Paul Harding

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