

June 12, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I had the distinct pleasure of having Sophia Spano as my student teacher during the spring semester of 2026. Sophia came to work every day prepared and ready to meet the needs of all the students in the classroom. She independently took the initiative from day one to work with students. Her ability to differentiate to challenge those children who needed it, as well as modify appropriately so all children could learn and succeed was clearly evident in her daily interactions. Her interactions with the children were both kind and respectful. She provided role modeling of what was expected of them. Her ability to connect with each child was impressive and this led to a nurturing relationship. Students felt comfortable and safe to take risks, thus fostering growth both academically and emotionally. Sophia reached out to other staff members to collaborate on lessons. She also attended weekly PLCs with our grade level as well as any professional development offered by our district.

Sophia was punctual, professional, and respectful to all staff, students and families. She exceeded all expectations and responsibilities set by both the university and myself. It was a true pleasure to have Sophia in my classroom for the semester. I have no doubt that Sophia has the knowledge, skills, and ability to work with any age group in any setting.

Sophia would be a wonderful addition to your school district. Please feel free to contact me by email, vieirac@portsmouthschoolsri.org, if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,
Cathy Vieira
Melville Elementary School
401-683-1650