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To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Sophie Spano for a teaching position in your school. I had the privilege of working with Sophie from September 2025- December 2025, as she was in the role of my Special Education Student teacher in Grade 6 at Gaudet Middle School in Middletown, RI.

From the moment that Sophie stepped foot into the classroom, it was clear she was a natural. She immediately jumped in to help support our caseload of 18 students of varying abilities and needs in a co-taught, inclusion model. Co teaching in two math classes, and two ELA classes with me, daily, Sophie made sure all students were receiving their accommodations and helped to differentiate lessons and modify assignments. She provided behavior support and management, delivered specialized instruction and interventions and also progress monitored. She made connections with the students who were drawn to her kind and empathetic nature. During her time with me, Sophie also completed educational testing, administering the KTEA for a triennial re-evaluation. Additionally, Sophie wrote an IEP for a student and facilitated her first IEP meeting. The meeting was successful and positive, and this is something I am most proud of.

Sophie is responsible, collaborative and a team player. She has a strong work ethic and maintains professionalism. She has creative ideas and her lessons always have high student engagement. She is driven by the value that all students can learn and is bright and engaging, quick-witted, and forms strong relationships.

Sophie's many strengths can be summed up with a quality that cannot be taught. Sophie possesses the ability to connect with students, and make them feel seen and heard. She has high expectations, while being loving and kind. In teaching, this skill is arguably the most important part. When it was time for Sophie to move on to her next student teaching placement she was deeply missed by students and teachers alike, and her impact was felt even more so. I am assured that Sophie will be an asset to your faculty and I wholeheartedly recommend her as an exceptional new teacher.

Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions.

Sincerely,  
Ceili McCarthy  
6th Grade Special Education Teacher, Gaudet Middle School  
MAT 1-6 Elementary and Special Education