



THE MONTGOMERY ACADEMY

May 11, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Emily Vickery for five years during our work together at The Montgomery Academy, a private college-preparatory school. In that time I have watched Emily use her impressive skills and wide body of technological and pedagogical knowledge to move our school into the 21st Century. Today we are far more knowledgeable and skilled in incorporating the vast array of modern technology to reach and instruct our students. That progress is largely due to Emily Vickery's leadership.

Skills and knowledge can take a person only so far if requisite personal attributes are missing. In Emily's case she matches her wide breadth of knowledge and skills with a warm, compassionate, and patient personality, one desperate to help others improve their own skills and knowledge. How often she has patiently helped her less than computer-savvy colleagues--including me--confidently embrace new technology. As the Director of 21st Century Learning, Emily has helped my department find new methodologies for teaching our students the power and beauty of the English language; her instruction always came with a hefty dose of patient encouragement. She has the heart of a true teacher, and The Montgomery Academy faculty have benefited from her kind, understanding nature.

Springing from that kindness and understanding is an issue close to Emily's heart: tolerance. With great deftness and sensitivity, Emily has molded a powerful curriculum which unites technology with tolerance, using the world of technology our students know so well to lead them to a better awareness and understanding of their fellow human beings. She has encouraged her students to bridge the gaps of race, language, and cultural difference to find common ground, and she has done so while teaching our students the technological skills they will need in today's world.



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Emily has taken her message of technology and tolerance all around the world: From conferences and schools here in the United States and even to Serbia, where she presented a tolerance program under the aegis of the U.S. State Department. Her resume shows a wide body of experiences which have transformed her into a consummate professional, one who will enhance any organization or school fortunate enough to call her a colleague.

I offer her my highest recommendation and my best wishes for further excellence. May her professionalism, her intellectual growth, and her usefulness to the world community continue to flourish.

Sincerely,

Scott Richburg
English Department Chair
The Montgomery Academy