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April 23, 2014

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my great pleasure to prepare this letter of recommendation for Lori Ann Gardner. My understanding is that Ms. Gardner is at this time applying for a variety of teaching positions in order to find a solid match for her talents, passion and abilities. I have known Ms. Gardner since 2007 in my capacity as co-advisor to the Xi Zeta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the academic honors society at Jefferson College. I am Professor of Philosophy at Jefferson College and current Division Chair of Communication and Fine Arts.

I came to know Ms. Gardner well when she was President if the Xi Zeta Chapter. The success of the local Phi Theta Kappa chapter is contingent each year on its officer team. Some students crave little more than a line on their resumes and fail in the most basic duties of the position. Others, like Ms. Gardner, rise to the challenge of leadership and bring success to the Chapter and to its members. The chapter flourished under her leadership and was able to send its officer team to the International Convention in Texas.

Ms. Gardner was an exceptional student while at Jefferson College; her GPA was a 3.9 when I was working with her. She has a careful and exacting mind, and she knows to ask questions instead of leaping in without adequate information. Her personal style is subdued but confident. I never saw her lose her temper when facing unexpected challenges – an attribute that I consider critical in an elementary school teacher.

I have seen her portfolio which is posted at <u>lgardnerlab8bf.weebly.com</u>. I was not surprised by the initiative, thoroughness and creativity that I saw there. I can recommend Ms. Gardner to any school principal without hesitation or reservation.

I may be contacted at mbooker@jeffco.edu or at (636) 481-3312.

Sincerely

Michael J. Booker, Ph.D.