



HIGH MOUNTAIN ROAD SCHOOL
765 High Mountain Road
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417
(201) 891-4433 Fax: (201) 891-1689
Mrs. Helen Attenello, Principal

May 11, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Nancy Barlow for three years in her capacity as a fifth grade teacher at High Mountain Road School. During that time Mrs. Barlow has proven herself to be a valuable addition to the professional staff. She has embraced the study of the 'Readers' and Writers' Workshop model and implemented the program in a clear, effective manner. Her excellent math instruction helped ensure that her fifth grade students were prepared for the challenges of the middle school math program. Additionally, she implemented an investigative, hands-on approach to science, which students eagerly responded to.

Mrs. Barlow has also distinguished herself as a particularly caring teacher, who takes a personal interest in each of her students. She is genuinely concerned about the emotional, social and academic well being of her students, and they thrive in the nurturing environment she creates.

Mrs. Barlow has established clear channels of communication with parents and frequently shares with parents both her concerns for and the successes of her students. Her classroom newsletter serves to keep parents well informed about instructional activities in her classroom.

Mrs. Barlow has also proven herself to be a team player, who works closely with her grade level colleagues and other staff members. She has participated on several school wide committees, which had a positive impact on all the children at High Mountain Road School. Her most recent contribution has been the development and implementation of the "Green Team," a fifth grade environmental leadership team.

In closing, I would like to share with you that, were it not for the reduction in force currently occurring in our school district, Mrs. Barlow would have been offered a contract for next year and received tenure in Franklin Lakes. She has been a real asset to our community and any district would be lucky to have her on its staff.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Helen Attenello

Helen Attenello

May 8, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Mrs. Nancy Barlow for the past two years. During this time, I have worked with Nancy in the capacity of Collaborative Special Education Teacher.

Throughout our relationship there have been many qualities to Nancy's teaching that have impressed me. One of the most important characteristics a teacher can possess is an awareness of the "whole child." Nancy has the ability to look at a child and recognize that they need both their academic and emotional needs met. She values the diversity of every child's style of learning, while enjoying the variations in their personalities. In addition to the aforementioned, Nancy creates learning opportunities for her students that engage and excite them.

During our collaborative experiences, Nancy and I planned cohesive lessons and often employed reciprocal teaching practices. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to experience teaching both the classified students and students in the mainstream. This partnership not only benefited our professional relationship – but also modeled positive experiences for the students.

It is my pleasure to write this letter of reference for Mrs. Nancy Barlow. She is a professional, a caring educator and a colleague who I will miss tremendously.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia B. Scherf".

Cynthia B. Scherf
Franklin Lakes School District
High Mountain Road School
Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417

May 4, 2009

Dr. Roger Bayersdorfer
Superintendent
Franklin Lakes Board of Education
490 Pulis Avenue
Franklin Lakes, NJ 074 17

Re: Nancy Barlow, 5th grade teacher

Dear Dr. Bayersdorfer:

A note in support of HMR's 5th grade teacher, Nancy Barlow.

From a parents perspective, Nancy Barlow is and has proven herself to be a phenomenal 5th grade teacher. Two of our children have been fortunate enough to have had her for their final years at HMR, and she has made quite an impact on their learning experiences.

Mrs. Barlow is a clear, organized, and succinct teacher and leader. She has made big academic impacts in our children and their peers. We talk of her often, praising how she directs, pushes and leads the students to work hard, explore more, and not settle for straight answers or writing assignments.

She pushes for more and seems to get the students to do the same. We have been very impressed with her teaching and regard her highly.

From the day she was hired, Mrs. Barlow has been a great force in the fifth grade teaching team at HMR School, and we hope you will consider what an asset she is to the Franklin Lakes School system as she has been crucial in helping students find success at FAMS.

Regards,

Bevinn & Rob Romaine

**Cc: C.Coleburn, J. Conti, R. Haas, R. Koenigsberg, C. Monte, C. Reitz,
L.Sciancalepore, D. Taylor, T. Wentworth**