



## DeWitt High School

PO Box 800 ▪ DeWitt, MI 48820 ▪ (517) 668-3100 ▪ [www.dewittschools.net](http://www.dewittschools.net)

December 1, 2016

Dear Ms. Megan Vincent, CDE Director:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Jordan Parks. As his cooperating teacher during his student teaching placement here at DeWitt High School (2013-2014), I can personally attest to his ability and work ethic. He is energetic, enthusiastic, well-organized, and works extremely hard to implement a variety of different teaching strategies in the classroom. His extensive experience not only through his coursework in college but also through his life experiences really separates Jordan. He has an uncanny rapport with students and genuinely cares about young people.

Here at DeWitt, Jordan had the opportunity to teach United States History and United States Government classes. During his internship, Jordan demonstrated the highest degree of professionalism and was well liked by our staff and student body. His sense of humor and communication skills helped create an atmosphere where students felt comfortable and willing to participate. It was clear from the first day that one of his biggest strengths was his ability to take over the room with his infectious positive attitude, while at the same time modeling his excitement and personal interest in the subject matter for his students. He gained the attention and respect of his students immediately and continued to set high expectations for his classes, both academically and behaviorally. His lessons were thought-provoking and appropriate as they challenged students to make the connection between the content of his class and the real world.

Jordan cares about young people; he is someone who is willing to spend time with students after school, whether it be to work on academics or extracurricular events. In his time here as an intern, he was a regular fixture at basketball games, musicals, and other club functions, allowing him to get to know our students on a more personal level, and they definitely appreciated his time and interest in their lives. Jordan also stands as a remarkable role model for young people. He is a man of great integrity and moral character. With the utmost confidence I can say he is someone who will always represent himself and his school with honor.

Since his internship at DeWitt, I have maintained a close friendship with Jordan. I was proud to see him accept an English Language Arts teaching position at Bath Middle School, where he has been teaching since 2014. He has continued his interest in being active in the lives of young people. During his time at Bath, he has been the leader for PALS (Peer Assistant Leaders, which is a school peer-to-peer youth development program) and was the varsity girls' soccer coach (where he was recognized as the *Lansing State Journal* "Coach of the Year"). In addition, he has continued to officiate high school and college basketball and has served as the DeWitt Area Recreation Association Kids Summer Camp counselor and director.

Without hesitation I can say Jordan is an excellent candidate for the Le Chateau Des Enfants program. If I may be of further assistance on Jordan's behalf, or if you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at (517) 668-3130 (school) or (517) 410-7998 (cell).

Sincerely,

Michael Brya  
Social Studies Teacher

# BATH MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Lorenda Jonas, Principal  
Craig Skinner, Social Worker

December 6, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

I am honored to recommend Jordan Parks for the Le Chateau Des Enfants program.

I had the pleasure of hiring Jordan as a middle school language arts and social studies instructor for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students at Bath Middle School beginning the 2014/2015 school year. As his supervisor, I am in Jordan's classroom regularly throughout the school year and am always impressed with his lessons and classroom management. His lessons are well organized and engage students using a variety of tools and methods. Jordan does a commendable job of incorporating student interests into lessons and making real life connections students can relate to. Jordan's instruction and management skills reflect those of tenured staff. He has proven to be a lifelong learner, taking information from workshops/conferences and colleagues to enhance his teaching. For example, he attended a series of workshops with Kevin Feldman regarding student engagement and literacy. He returned from the workshops and immediately implemented new techniques into his teaching. Jordan did this so well I asked him to present to the staff as our part of our building professional development.

Mr. Parks is willing to do whatever is needed and goes the extra step for the students and staff at Bath Middle School. He leads our building PALS group after school, participates in staff activities, and is often seen at student after school events. Jordan was the varsity girls' soccer coach last year and continues to officiate college and high school athletic events. He also served as a counselor in 2013 and director in 2014 of the DARA Kids Summer Camp.

Jordan deserves serious consideration for the Le Chateau Des Enfants program, and I recommend him highly. Please feel free to contact me for additional information or with any questions. I can be reached by phone at (517)641-6781 or email at [ljonas@bathschools.net](mailto:ljonas@bathschools.net).

Sincerely,



Lorenda Jonas  
Principal