North Penn High School
1340 Valley Forge Road
Lansdale, PA 19446
June 11, 2004

To whom it may concern:

Elizabeth Elsas has been working as a student teacher with me since March 15, 2004. As of April 6, she had taken over four of my eleventh grade academic level English classes. On April 28, she began teaching my one remaining eleventh grade honors level English class.

I have found Ms Elsas to have an impressive work ethic. She completed units on The Great Gatsby, American poetry, The Glass Menagerie and selected lessons on grammar, vocabulary, and composition. I feel she did effective research on the literature and presented organized, insightful lessons. Ms Elsas is creative and resourceful in class instruction utilizing a variety of teaching strategies to establish rapport and to raise student interest. Her awareness of the need to assess students' comprehension and mastery in a variety of ways shows her sensitivity to weaknesses and strengths of the diverse group of students she teaches. At the end of each teaching session, Ms Elsas discusses candidly with me what she feels succeeded. If she is not satisfied with the lesson outcome, she willingly and ably devises alternative strategies.

Ms Elsas's interaction with her students has been comfortable and pleasant. In the weeks of observation, she obtained seating charts and learned their names. When she began instructing the class as a whole, she knew their names and their individual personalities. Maintaining a purposeful environment and enacting effective management of student behavior/response, Ms Elsas set clear expectations and fostered a harmonious learning community. I believe her drama training gives her poise and composure in front of a large group of students. While maintaining authority as a teacher, Ms Elsas relates to each student with a positive attitude and pleasant demeanor. During her twelve weeks of student teaching in my classroom, Ms Elsas demonstrated exemplary performance in planning, preparing, instructing and evaluating the classes in her charge.

I believe Ms Elsas would be a strong candidate for an English position in your district.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mary Lynn Ferry