



Leslye W. Kenney  
Vermont Kelly Educational Staffing Talent Recruiter  
Kelly Services

Dear Leslye,

I am pleased to learn that Kate Stein has been nominated as Kelly Services' "Substitute Teacher of the Year." Kate has been a consistent, positive presence at Burlington High School and in our District for several years. It is an honor to share with you why I think Kate is deserving of this award.

We are lucky to have Kate Stein in Burlington School District. As you know, it is rare for Kate to be asked to substitute teach and have her decline; her dependability and dedication cannot be understated. As a smart and organized substitute teacher, we know that when Kate is subbing in our schools, it is not at the expense of our students' educational needs or their parents' educational expectations. She is a firm classroom leader who is also compassionate and considerate of each child.

Kate's involvement with BSD does not end at the end of the school day. She is involved in our music programs as a volunteer page tuner for our accompanist, and as a parent in Unified Sports, she regularly supports Coach Leonard and provides transportation for students. As a member of Seahorse Pride (the BHS Booster/PTO organization), Kate has been instrumental in helping redefine the role of the parent organization to focus on not only athletics, but academic achievement supports as well. She works closely with the District to spread the positive work this group is engaged in, including collaborating on press announcements and participating in press conferences.

Finally, her dedication to BHS and student well-being has been most-fully on display as the Co-chair of the BHS ReEnvisioning Committee. Her involvement on this committee was crucial to the Burlington School District's passing of the largest school renovation bond in Vermont history. Kate spent countless mornings, nights, and weekends engaging BHS staff, students and parents, as well as the greater Burlington community. After numerous rounds of feedback, Kate became a staunch supporter of the plan recommended by the committee to partially demolish parts of the BHS campus while expanding and fully renovating other areas. She coordinated volunteers, created marketing materials, tabled at local businesses, spoke to media, coordinated and transported student representatives, and presented to Neighborhood Planning Associations and our Board of School Commissioners. I think it is fair to say that without her support the bond would not have passed. And she provided all of this support for a new building which will not be built before her own children have already graduated.

Because of her constant dependency, unwavering support of our students, school, and District, and willingness to continually answer the call for help and service, there is no one more deserving of this high honor; I heartily give my recommendation that Kate Stein receive this award.

In support,



Yaw Obeng  
Superintendent of Schools  
Burlington School District