

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Elizabeth Hobbs, and I have had the pleasure of collaborating with Jenna Mobley for the past three school years. I am a Kindergarten teacher and the Kindergarten team leader at Springdale Park Elementary, and Ms. Mobley has served my students as their environmental education and science lab enrichment teacher. Jenna's innovative curriculum, passion for education, and respect with which she treats each student continually make her class a favorite among my kindergarten students. Springdale Park's "green" mission makes our school unlike any other, and Jenna is the face behind the mission. In addition to teaching Kindergarten through fifth grade students about the importance of health and environmental awareness, she has developed and maintained the school's beautiful rooftop garden, developed and implemented the school's recycling and composting programs, and created strong community partnerships with organizations and companies that support the school's "green" mission.

Each July, Jenna is the first staff member to arrive back to school to begin the academic year. Jenna's work hours begin before 7:30 and end well after 3:00 this time of year as she prepares the garden for the 700 students who will soon be back to care for it. Jenna has worked intently for the past three school years to design and tweak inquiry-based lesson plans that align lessons in the garden to state performance standards and common core standards. From measuring and comparing attributes of plants to honeybee pollination, Jenna teaches it all to my kindergarten students.

An exclamation I regularly hear from kindergarten parents new to Springdale Park Elementary is, "My child has completely transformed our recycling system at home!" I hear, "I never thought I would be composting at home!" Jenna teaches her students what to recycle, how to recycle, as well as what and how to compost. Students have practice recycling and composting at school through grade-level competitions Jenna organizes. It is incredible to see how Jenna's lessons at school are carried into homes throughout the neighborhood.

Positive relationships between a school and its community members create strong schools. Jenna has built partnerships with Trees Atlanta, local farmers' markets, Trees Atlanta Camps, and several other organizations. The city of Atlanta is fortunate to have connected bike trails throughout the city. These trails, known as the Beltline, are beloved by our community. Partnered with Trees Atlanta, Jenna organized a huge community service project for the Springdale Park Elementary community to plant trees along the new trails on the Beltline. Dozens of students, parents, teachers, and other community members attended to show their support.

Jenna Mobley is an intentional, impactful educator with work that continues beyond classroom walls. The world of education today is filled with increased accountability, pressure to succumb to pacing guides that do not necessarily align to student interest, and high-stakes testing. Ms. Mobley's class is a direct reflection of our community and student interest. She is doing the tremendous work of preparing young global citizens who respect and care for their earth.

Elizabeth Hobbs
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