

9576 Hampton Reserve Drive  
Brentwood, TN 37027

September 1, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pleasure and confidence that I write this letter of recommendation for Valerie Machado as a candidate for the Master of teaching graduate program at Evergreen College. I have known Valerie since 2015 when I had the privilege of having her as my student teacher at Arlington Traditional School in Arlington, Virginia. Our school prides itself for being one of the most diverse student populated schools in Arlington. As a teacher with 30 years of experience and a Master of Education degree (and now retired), I have taught every grade from preschool through fifth grade.

Recently, Valerie shared her excitement with me about applying for graduate school at Evergreen College and her goal of returning to the classroom after she completes your program. I love how Evergreen College incorporates social equity into its foundation of learning and teaching. Having taught in diverse schools, I know how important this is and how it builds success for our students and families. Valerie has already experienced many diverse cultures through her international travels and past residences.

When Ms. Machado was a student teacher in our second grade classroom, she was able to bring her prior personal experiences into practical use with the students. One example of this was evident as she planned and implemented an Ancient China unit of study for the social studies curriculum. Valerie had actually been to China and was able to add so much more to her lessons because of her personal cultural experiences. She taught several written characters and then students created their own written scrolls. It was very impressive to watch her make so many connections with students. Valerie's down to earth acceptance and good character are strengths that enabled her to make personal connections quickly and the students accepted her as their teacher immediately. Her eagerness to experience all aspects of teaching motivated her to participate in team meetings, IEP meetings, discussions with the school counselor, and parent-teacher conferences.

After earning her bachelor degree and teaching credential, Valerie followed her husband to his various employment posts and taught second grade while in El Salvador. This experience provided amazing cultural opportunities in teaching for her. Ms. Machado is bright, articulate, and a quick learner. She's easy to get along with and a team player! In addition, she is self-motivated and needs minimal supervision. Valerie is a confident, committed, and organized, professional, effectively execute responsibilities within sight and sound judgment. She has all the necessary skills to excel in Evergreen College's Master in Teaching graduate program. If you need additional information, please feel free to contact me at [vickyflynt@hotmail.com](mailto:vickyflynt@hotmail.com).

Sincerely,  
Vicky Flynt