

Application Related Information

Application:	Application Verified	Iteration Name:	202540_GR_G
Grad Program Applying To:	MIT	Program Name:	MIT

Recommendation Information

Recommended By:	Gabrielle Personius	Recommenders Title:	Kindergarten Teacher
Recommenders Institution:	Olympic View Elementary	Contact Name:	Peyton Rhyne
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.	Recommendation Waiver Choice:	
Recommendation Form Submitted:	✓	Recommendation Status:	Received
Received Date:	12/03/2024 04:23 PM	Recommender Assessment:	I recommend this applicant without reservation.
Recommendation Type:	General	Recommender Form:	Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Entity ID:	1024000121253451	Recommendation Owner:	Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:	Applicant ability as self-directed learner:
Time since last contact with applicant:	Applicant as productive member of group:
Relationship with Applicant:	Applicant most significant strengths:
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Responsibility/reliability:
Communication Skills - Oral:	Communication skills - written:
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Ability to work independently:
Ability to handle stress:	Ability to think critically:
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Ability to think creatively:
Openness to feedback:	Potential for leadership:
Ability to work in a team:	Personal/professional reflection:

Description Information

Description:	Form URL:	https://evergreenstatecollege.radius
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Other Information

Created Time:	11/21/2024 04:38 PM	Created By:	Josephine Bernier
Modified Time:	12/03/2024 04:23 PM	Modified By:	Josephine Bernier

1330 Horne Street

Lacey, WA, 98516

gpersonius@nthurston.k12.wa.us

(360) 214-2891

December 3, 2024

Admissions Committee

The Evergreen State College

Dear Members of the Admissions Committee,

I am thrilled to recommend Peyton Rhyne for The Evergreen State College Master in Teaching program. As an alum of the program, I deeply value The Evergreen State College's commitment to experiential learning, equity, and place-based learning. The program's unique structure profoundly shaped my development as an educator, and I am confident Peyton Rhyne will not only benefit from but also excel in this environment.

I have had the privilege of knowing Peyton for six years and have watched her grow into an empathetic, resilient, and inspiring mentor for young learners. Peyton's journey in education began early, spending years in her mother's classroom, where she observed and internalized the values of equity, compassion, and culturally responsive classroom management modeled by her mother, a teacher of nearly two decades. In addition, Peyton has honed her skills by coaching 4-10-year-olds through Olympia Parks and Recreation's summer soccer program, demonstrating her ability to build trust and empower children with diverse needs and abilities. Peyton is currently a paraeducator in the Lakewood School District as a life skills one on one.

What sets Peyton apart is her incredible patience, a trait I consider paramount for any educator, particularly in a kindergarten setting where students' first experiences with learning can shape their academic and personal trajectories. Patience is a vital skill for teachers, fostering longevity in the profession and creating positive classroom environments. Peyton's ability to laugh, embrace the natural silliness of a classroom and the individuality of each student, and pivot gracefully in dynamic situations is exceptional.

Over the past two years, Peyton has volunteered consistently in my kindergarten classroom, where she has demonstrated a natural ability to connect with students, a strong work ethic, and an openness to feedback. These traits are in perfect alignment with Evergreen's emphasis on self-directed learning and collaboration as pathways to meaningful impact. Additionally, I have learned so much from watching Peyton interact with my students, especially students with behavioral needs. Her presence has made me a better teacher and I am grateful to her for that.

In my classroom's daily closing circle, inspired by GRuB's Plant Teachings, we reflect on the traits of different plants and how they relate to our classroom community. If Peyton were a plant, she would be Alder—intentional in her relationships, harmonious, and deeply committed to fostering a strong, connected community. Her calm demeanor, a medicine, and much like

Alder's canopy, her nurturing presence provides a safe, supportive space for everyone around her. Peyton Rhyne would be an exceptional candidate for the MiT program.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me at (360) 214-2891 or gpersonius@nthurston.k12.wa.us if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,
Elle Personius
Kindergarten Teacher