



# Watertown-Mayer Public Schools

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Home of the *Royals*

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To Whom It May Concern,

This is a strong letter of recommendation for Dr. Julie Beddow-Schubert. I worked with Dr. Beddow-Schubert in the La Crescent-Hokah School District, both in my role as Elementary Principal as well as Superintendent of Schools. Throughout that time Julie demonstrated a vision for student-centered instructional leadership focused on providing students with skills, knowledge and understandings they need to be successful learners in our schools and beyond. Her vision and communication skills-combined with extraordinary experience and understanding in the areas of curriculum design, technology integration, teacher professional development, and student learning needs in the context of the 21<sup>st</sup> century qualify her for a variety of administrative roles, ranging from building principal to district positions up to and including superintendent of schools.

Dr. Beddow-Schubert's responsibilities evolved over time in La Crescent due to budget reductions and administrative restructuring. Her original position was Curriculum Director, a position supporting district-wide teacher professional development, assessment coordinator duties and leadership within the Technology Department on both network management and classroom instructional practice. Most recently, Dr. Beddow-Schubert's primary responsibilities included Curriculum Director and PK-4 Elementary Principal.

As Curriculum Director, Dr. Beddow-Schubert assisted all departments in developing a comprehensive and cohesive K-12 curriculum effectively sequenced and aligned with state standards. This work included leading a redesign of the curriculum review cycle focused on purposeful curriculum improvement through the use of Understanding by Design. Dr. Beddow-Schubert's efforts guided teachers to significantly deeper levels of reflection and planning to improve instructional practice across the district.

Dr. Beddow-Schubert was a key contributor to significant advancements in technology integration across the district. She played a key role in the development of the district's Educational Technology through Integration and Collaboration (ENTIC) program designed to equip teachers with the hardware, knowledge, skills and capacities needed to effectively integrate the use of technology into their instruction. This work led to a natural embedding of technology standards in the context of day to day student learning. Dr. Beddow-Schubert also played a key role in the advancement of the District's

LancerLearningHD 1:1 computing initiative.

Both as Curriculum Director and PK-4 Principal, Dr. Beddow-Schubert made significant contributions to the district's teacher professional development activities. As a member of the district's administrative team, she was a key contributor in leading and developing the District's teacher Professional Learning Community framework. A framework grounded in the Dufour model. Julie also provided direct instruction for teachers on methodologies such as Six + 1 Traits Writing and Reading Comprehension Strategies designed to improve student writing and reading skills across all areas of the district curriculum. In addition, she worked closely with the district's Q-Comp teacher alternate compensation program, using a data-driven approach to develop site goals and action plans centered on improving achievement in a variety of areas of student learning.

The body of Julie's work listed above has been firmly set in the context of the needs of learners, both students and teachers, within the 21<sup>st</sup> century. She played a key role in advancing understanding of student learning needs and encouraging an ongoing commitment to innovation and excellence throughout the La Crescent-Hokah School District. Julie worked collaboratively with her fellow administrators, teachers, students and families across the district, holding them in the highest regard and respect. Julie was deeply committed to supporting the District's staff and students to ensure they have had every opportunity possible to be successful in our schools. Julie's knowledge, skills, experiences and most importantly, her relentless commitment to the benefit of students, make her a tremendous asset to any school district.

Sincerely,



Ron Wilke

Superintendent of Schools