

## Letter of Support for Teresa McGarry

To whom it may concern,

It is with great please that I write this letter of support on behalf of Teresa McGarry and MoneyTalk. As a Business Teacher at Wyandotte High School in Kansas City, Kansas, I had the opportunity to get to know Teresa quite well and leaned on her expertise. She was my primary substitute teacher and I also invited her to participate in my class as a guest speaker on a number of occasions, as well as other projects. I taught Business Communications, Consumer Education and Entrepreneurship. I quickly learned that I could depend on Teresa to not only assist me but also take the lead in all of these areas.

Many of the students in that underserved and impoverished community lack financial literacy and business skills. My goals for students was to help them to dream, to set goals, to give them hope and help them believe that success is possible with determination, effort and educational opportunities made available to them. Teresa and MoneyTalk helped to make this possible by engaging students in learning about finances and budgeting in ways that were practical and fun. Her hands-on and interactive approach got students' attention more than our typical classroom learning approach. Her approach to problem solving helped me to be a better teacher. Several other volunteer professionals who I had invited to my classroom had the opportunity to observe Teresa working with my students and were very impressed with her approach to teaching and engaging the students in learning.

MoneyTalk actually went beyond just focusing on financial matters but delved into other practical aspects of students' lives. Teresa helped them to think about their interests and skills and what direction that might take them in their future careers. She taught them about interviewing skills and what it takes to make a good impression with potential employers. She was interested in the whole person.

I see a great need for MoneyTalk's services now and in the future. My experience with MoneyTalk was in the classroom, but their services can also benefit adults as well. Financial Literacy has not traditionally been taught in schools; therefore, we have a community/a nation of adults who are not managing their finances well because they haven't been taught. This becomes even more critical in today's times because as we face even greater economic challenges.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working and collaborating with Teresa and know that given the opportunity, MoneyTalk will continue to make a difference in the community.

Please feel free to contact me for any additional information.

Sincerely,



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