



OKLAHOMA STATE
DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

February 23, 2021

Moore Public Schools
1500 SE 4th
Moore, OK 73160

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a great honor to write a letter of recommendation for LeeAnne Alicia Lacy-Scott to be named the Moore Public Schools Teacher of the Year. I met Alicia over a decade ago at a writing awards ceremony hosted by the Oklahoma Writing Project. At that ceremony, she encouraged me to apply for the Oklahoma Writing Project's Summer Institute (SI).

I took her advice and was accepted to the three-week program where teachers learned and shared best practices with one another. At the SI, Alicia modeled how to teach students to use grammar to write livelier sentences. Watching her present, I recognized her talent and skill as a teacher since she turned a traditionally stale subject into an engaging challenge.

We SI participants also engaged in writing groups. My writing group coach was Alicia. She modeled how to give praise and critique to pieces of writing, encouraging our small group to find our voices and inspiring us with beautiful writing of her own. When I later used writing groups in my classroom, I trained my students how to give feedback the same way Alicia taught me. My students soared as writers as a result.

Alicia helped me to learn effective writing instruction strategies, which allowed me to shift to a more student-centered and workshop approach. Like so many of her current and former students, I consider her to be one of the best teachers I have ever had.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Stephenson".

Jason Stephenson
Director of Secondary English Language Arts
Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Oklahoma State Department of Education