

# PINEVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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November 2, 2021

Dear Teacher of the Year Nominating Committee,

I am so pleased to write this letter of nomination for Pineview Elementary School's Teacher of the Year winner, Ashlyn Laughlin. Without a doubt, Ms. Laughlin exemplifies the qualities and attributes that will leave the selection committee with no other choice other than selecting her as Leon County School's Teacher of the Year!

To better acquaint you with Ms. Laughlin, please allow me to describe exactly how wonderful she is! Immediately after graduating from college she started her teaching career here at Pineview Elementary "by choice". Her desire to want to make a difference in a school that was deemed failing (at the time) ignited a fire not only within herself, but also amongst her teammates. She brought on a new perspective of teaching that brought forth new experiences for our students. Under her tutelage, all of our kindergartners now have the opportunity to complete hands-on learning practices that have now become "kindergarten staples".

Moreover, even amid the many barriers that exist in a Title I school, she sets high standards for herself and her students. Take for example the level of growth that she made with her students within the past nine weeks, from the beginning of the year baseline assessments to the end of the first nine weeks her class went from 20% to 62% of her students being at or above grade level. She achieves such greatness in such a short period of time with intentional acts that directly impact her students and their learning. This level of accelerated growth is attained through adding minutes to her daily instruction and providing deliberate practice segments throughout the school day. Over the past two years, she has perfected her delivery of instruction and her students' data is evidence of how tailored instruction can meet the needs of students and place them on the road to proficiency.

Additionally, she devotes time outside of her regular work day to develop skills with our lowest performing students in kindergarten. This two-year venture has been the key to bridging the gap of learning loss of our kindergartners that came to us without any prior schooling experience. This extra layer of learning has changed the trajectory of students learning and has gotten most on grade level before the end of the school year.

Ms. Laughlin is an amazing teacher and has built a sturdy foundation for which her students will thrive upon as they matriculate through school. Because of her, her students and our kindergarten program will produce some of the best prepared students in Leon County Schools! For this reason alone, she should be the district winner for Teacher of the Year.

Most Sincerely,



Carmen Conner

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