

Counselor Education Department

Post Office Box 751 Portland, Oregon 97207-0751

February 24, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I highly recommend that you select Dhara Sheth as your school's next professional school counselor. Ms. Sheth possesses the unique ability to integrate theory with practice in a manner that is effective, impactful, and impressive. She is warm, empathic, reliable, and professionally mature. I have been working closely with Ms. Sheth for three years as her faculty advisor and professor. I have become very familiar with Ms. Sheth's workstyle and competence and am impressed with her consistently high performance across all domains: academic, clinical, and as a professional school counseling intern.

Ms. Sheth is well respected for her organized and impactful work style and friendly, approachable demeanor. She spends her time wisely and efficiently, and maintains clarity about her goals and objectives. Once she decides upon the desired outcome of any task, she creates a logical and efficient plan to achieve success and then makes it happen. Along the way, she maintains a relaxed and composed presence that is reassuring for her students and colleagues alike. She juggles multiple demands with competence and ease, and I have learned that she is not easily ruffled. She has the unique ability to maintain calm in the face of chaos, and her ability to de-escalate a situation is impressive and skillful.

Perhaps Ms. Sheth's most impressive ability is her masterful integration into any situation or setting. She has developed a level of multicultural competence that most education professionals aspire to. Her cultural competence extends beyond her multilingualism. She is truly an advocate for all underrepresented populations, from her role in developing a Gay-Straight Alliance to her group interventions for Latina students, Ms. Sheth is a master at identifying unmet culturally-related needs and barriers and finding ways to alleviate the related issues.

Further, Ms. Sheth is well-educated and has a strong background in research and assessment. She is currently conducting an action research project and understands the importance of assessing her interventions so that she can engage in a cycle of continuous improvement. Further, she eagerly consults with peers and colleagues so that she can constantly learn, integrate her knowledge, and reflect upon her practice.

Ms. Sheth is a uniquely skilled professional school counselor who would make a strong addition to any school setting. However, I believe she is especially well suited for your school as she is so incredibly able to manage the needs of a diverse community such as yours.

I welcome you to call me if you would like to further discuss Ms. Sheth's tremendous skillset, 503.725.4253.

Sincerely, *Lisa Aasheim* Lisa Aasheim, PhD, LPC, NCC, ACS Associate Professor Coordinator, School Counseling Program aasheim@pdx.edu