

March 31, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Raychel McConnell and I am currently in my eighth year of teaching with the Anchorage School District. My degree is in Early Childhood Education. I am very passionate about teaching young children. I think it's important that we advocate for how crucial the early years of child development are.

I taught preschool with the district for two years. It was amazing to watch the children grow and flourish in the program. Later I had those same preschoolers in my class when I changed to first grade and then second grade. Now those students are 4th grade reading buddies with my second grade class. It is very apparent to me that they greatly benefited from the preschool program.

In my professional opinion, preschool definitely belongs in all elementary schools. Those students feed right into the school community as kindergarteners and are noticeably much more prepared and ready for the more rigorous instruction that is being taught in today's kindergarten classroom and beyond.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Raychel McConnell

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