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Dear Colleagues:

I am very pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Ms. Rebecca Klassen on her tenure review at Henry Barnard Laboratory School at Rhode Island College.

I have known Becky since 2018 when she presented “Extravaganza de Español” and reached out to the Modern Languages Department. We then started communicating about possibilities of adding Portuguese to the Modern Languages offerings at HBS. I was delighted to be contacted by Becky again in the summer of 2018 with plans to offer a Portuguese Club in the fall and to engage our World Languages Education-Portuguese student-teachers in the *Clube de Português*.

Dr. Erin Papa and I met several times with Becky to design the curriculum for *Clube de Português* which was to be taught by an MAT-Portuguese student on my recommendation and under Becky’s supervision in the classroom. I did not fully anticipate the challenges that the experience would represent for this particular student, and I attribute all successes to Becky Klassen’s pedagogy, her solid experience as an educator in the classroom and as a teacher-candidate educator. Becky advocated for her students by offering them the opportunity to learn a new language; she also candidly and powerfully advocated for the quality of language instruction in the classroom, by prompting the student-teacher to change and adapt quickly to the desired standards. However, I was most impressed by Becky Klassen’s advocacy for the student-teacher and by her leadership in taking on the role of mentor to the student-teacher. Becky Klassen demonstrated that she fully embraces the mission of a Laboratory School, the potential and the challenges that it entails, and I could not be more excited to welcome her as a permanent colleague at Rhode Island College.

Becky Klassen is also a leader in advocating for language education in the State, and her record of accomplishments and contributions to the profession are remarkable. I look forward to continuing our collaboration at Rhode Island College and RIFLA, and therefore I wholeheartedly endorse her application for tenure and promotion.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Sílvia Oliveira