

April 9, 2019

To Whom It Concerns:

I am pleased to recommend Kevin Kelly for any position he is interested in. I have known Kevin for more than five years, as a member of The Greenspire School's Board of Education to which Kevin reported, and in the capacity of parent of a Greenspire student.



Kevin is a smart, driven, passionate educator and leader. He intuitively understands that middle school students are learning with their whole selves, and he engages right there with them, whether they are studying the rational function, identifying flora and fauna in the woods outside of school, or throwing a frisbee at lunchtime. Kevin knows what is going on in their lives, and he and his staff of teachers and paraprofessionals apply that knowledge to a customized school experience that is absolutely unique. Students are highly encouraged to think about the larger world in which they live. They are part of a community, with responsibilities to that community. When my 8th grader graduated from Greenspire (an incredible, special ceremony unlike any other school I am aware of), he was more than ready academically and socially, but his heart was very sad to leave Kevin and his extraordinary team. A poem that he wrote about it began: "At the beginning/I was excited for the end./Now how I long for the beginning./How ironic, isn't it?"

As a member of the Greenspire Board of Education, I was always impressed with how prepared Kevin was, with information, with perspective, with a deep understanding of the needs of both teachers and students. His thoughtfulness helped us create and then sustain a special school for exceptional kids. His initiatives on fundraising and strategic planning were crucial in preparing a brand new school for years into the future. He also has a great sense of humor, a most welcome and important gift in the politics of academe. He is a good friend, empathetic, a fine listener and communicator. And he is one of my heroes when it comes to self-development, always looking for opportunities to grow personally and professionally.

Kevin's skills will serve him well on any career path he decides on as he moves forward from his time at Greenspire. He will be greatly missed. I am happy to recommend him without hesitation.

Sincerely,

Gina Aranki
Executive Director