



Stephen Steiner

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I am delighted to write this letter of recommendation for Luke Robell. As the Coordinator of Special Education for the Durango School District, I had the pleasure of working closely with Luke during his tenure as a paraprofessional at Miller Middle School and in our Extended School Year (ESY) program over the summer.

Luke joined our team at Miller Middle School midway through the 2021–2022 school year, immediately becoming a valuable member of our support network for students with significant needs. From the outset, Luke demonstrated a natural aptitude for working with students requiring intensive support. His skill and sensitivity in addressing each student's educational, functional, and social-emotional needs set him apart. Luke's deep awareness and understanding allowed him to forge strong, meaningful connections with students and their families, fostering a supportive and inclusive environment.

During our ESY summer program, I was further impressed by Luke's abilities. He worked closely with a non-verbal student with multiple disabilities, employing effective strategies to engage her academically at her instructional level. Luke was both patient and persistent, ensuring the student was actively participating and making meaningful progress. His dedication to supporting some of our most vulnerable students is both evident and admirable.

Words that immediately come to mind to describe Luke's approach to working with special needs students are organized, open-minded, and empathetic. His calm demeanor and thoughtful approach make him an asset in any professional setting. The outstanding work he did at Miller Middle School clearly reflects his commitment, reliability, and teamwork—qualities that will make him a valuable employee and colleague wherever he goes. Additionally, his ability to connect deeply with students while collaborating professionally with colleagues is a strength that will benefit any organization.

In sum, based on my experience working with Luke, I give him my highest recommendation. His dedication, intelligence, and passion for supporting student growth make him an exceptional candidate for your program. I would welcome the opportunity to speak further about Luke's contributions and potential.

Sincerely,

Stephen Steiner
Coordinator of Special Education
Durango School District