



May 22, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to highly recommend Ashlee Nichols for an Emerging Woman of Influence Award. I was Ashlee's supervisor in the Internal Audit Department at Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Company for two years. Ashlee was originally being interviewed for a position in a different department. It was easy to see that she was a candidate with extreme potential. Even though I was not looking to hire an assistant in the Internal Audit Department at the time, I quickly made arrangements to do so and offered Ashlee the job.

While working full-time in this capacity, Ashlee also went back to school to complete her Master's Degree and obtain a teaching license. She has since left the company to pursue her career in teaching, but continues to assist Pharmacists Mutual during the summer months. I am actively involved in our school system as a community member and as a parent. I have had the pleasure of getting to witness Ashlee develop into a leader in our school and community.

Ashlee goes to great lengths to make sure to engage her students every day and exhibit her passion for learning. She is a continuous learner herself and strives for excellence. She puts forth extra effort by attending professional development seminars and leading her students in various initiatives. She is conscientious, hardworking, organized and detail-oriented. She also has a work ethic that is extremely admirable. She has a great attitude and is willing to accept any challenge that comes her way. She also demonstrates kindness and compassion, encouraging her students to do the same.

Ashlee is also involved in our community. She is a member of the Algona Booster Club Board of Directors, leads school and student initiatives, and coaches in several capacities including our Special Olympics Team. She has also volunteered as a basketball and softball coach for young girls in our community. My daughter has been the benefactor of her coaching. What impresses me the most is that her coaching and teaching goes beyond technical skills. She strives to set her students and players up for success in life and teaches them skills beyond the classroom. She is a mentor and a role model in every aspect possible and we are honored to have her as part of our school and community.

In my opinion, Ashlee is a candidate who exemplifies the criteria set forth for this award. Ashlee's positive attitude, work ethic, leadership ability, and character are just a few of the attributes that set her apart. She strives to make a difference in every role she plays.

I would be happy to answer any further questions you may have. Thank you for this opportunity to provide a recommendation for Ashlee.

Sincerely,  
Alison VanOtterloo  
Vice President, Internal Audit