



June 12, 2020

My name is Jennifer Suh, professor of Mathematics Education at George Mason University. I am writing this letter for Dr. Theresa Wills. I have known Dr. Wills for over fifteen years, as a mathematics specialist, a doctoral advisee in our Mathematics Education Leadership Program, a colleague and collaborator on numerous professional development projects. Over the years, we have collaborated on many professional development projects and program development for our college. I'd like to preface the letter by attesting to Theresa Wills's high caliber in teaching both content and pedagogy courses for both preservice teachers as well as mathematics leaders in our mathematics specialist program. Most importantly, I believe that she is deserving of the Teaching Award because of her efforts in providing outreach for all math teacher educators and teachers particularly during this COVID crisis.

In the following letter, I will detail how she has proven to be an effective math educator, leader and PD provider in several capacities. She has a strong orientation for teaching through technology in all the professional development work she engages in. In fact, this special talent and passion has been one that has brought a lot of educators both support and knowledge during this COVID crisis. Not only has she presented her online teaching strategies through the AMTE webinar, Dr. Wills, has also provided thousands of educators free webinars for the past 3 months on her own time and efforts and has created a Youtube channel for broader dissemination. What I admire about Dr. Wills is beyond her knowledge and expertise in teaching through technology, it is her generous heart that most impresses me!

Her interest in bridging the affordance of technology focuses on the **SAMR Model** framework where she is constantly evaluating technology and how it is used as Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, and Redefinition. Substitution and Augmentation are considered "Enhancement" steps, while Modification and Redefinition are termed "Transformation" steps. Through this research based method, Dr. Wills is bringing innovation into teaching online when we most needed. NOW!

Through these numerous projects, I have come to know of Dr. Wills's strength as a dedicated mathematics educator and passionate supporter of all teachers. I believe Dr. Wills is a versatile mathematics education researcher who can contribute to the design and innovation in teaching online. I have worked closely with Dr. Wills at many levels in the Mathematics Education program at GMU. Her instructional leadership is exemplary and of high caliber and her professional disposition is always positive and supportive of all teachers and students. Thanks for the opportunity to share her wonderful attributes as a mathematics educator with you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Suh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small exclamation point above the first letter of the first name.

Jennifer Suh, Ph.D.
Professor of Mathematics Education
College of Education and Human Development
George Mason University
jsuh4@gmu.edu