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Rhonda Brownstein

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Dear Mr. Ruben:

We had the pleasure of hosting Robyn Bitner this summer as a legal intern. In short, she was fabulous! Our Executive Director speaks for all of us when she says “Robyn is a pleasure to work with. She’s very smart, deeply committed to public interest work, works very hard, and her work product is excellent.”

I have no doubt that Robyn will be a talented attorney. She conducts thorough and accurate research, thinks through problems creatively, and explains both the state of the law and potential arguments with clear, persuasive, and mechanically correct legal writing. For example, she researched and wrote a thorough memo on the rights of students to career and technical education in Pennsylvania and the respective legal obligations of school districts and charter schools to provide CTE. This research is extremely helpful to our office and will also be beneficial to students in Pennsylvania for years to come.

Some of her work included:

- Drafting a due process complaint on behalf of a seven-year-old with multiple disabilities to change his educational placement
- Creating a fact sheet on Career & Technical Education
- Writing a memo on state laws regarding Charter Management Organizations (CMOs) to help defeat proposed PA law, HB 618
- Writing a memo on parental access to school curriculum, property, and teachers and whether schools can exclude parents from school property
- Updating School Choice fact sheet on our website
- Writing a memo on the issue of class certification after Third Circuit case law invalidated class certification through agreement by the parties
- Writing a memo on Rule 5.5 and the meaning of “practice of law” in the Pennsylvania code of ethics
- Writing a memo summarizing the findings of a national charter school study

I have the pleasure of supervising our summer intern program, and I can say without hesitation that Robyn is one of the brightest interns we have had at ELC. Thank you for supporting Robyn with a fellowship. We wish her all the best in her legal career.

Sincerely,

Deborah Gordon Klehr  
Staff Attorney