Dear Selection Committee:

You only meet teachers like this once in a lifetime, someone who pushes you beyond your expectations and exceeds your goals.  A teacher who encourages you to do better when she knows this is your best. I have never met a teacher who never sits down and this is Tasha Candela. We never can tell if you were she was tired, sad, or maybe not even having a good day because she wouldn’t let us see it. Every day she was a bundle of joy and being my first hour the coffee to my morning.

Her knowledge for technology and helping others is impeccable. She is always discovering new tools to use to enhance the school like the surveys the teachers hand out to the students. Or the software to help her students get feedback on their work from their peers, family, friends, or maybe even coworkers. The three years I had her for a web design teacher each year we would learn a new software 1st year Photoshop Elements 9, 2nd year Flash animation, and our third year CS6. She is always thinking of ways to improve what she has done the year before.

Mrs. Candela is also not a shy individual and as a teacher you should be outgoing, bright, and always smiling, creating a welcoming atmosphere for students. She runs all the schools social network sites creating contests for us to get the word out about our school! If you win you get a gift card to use within the Saint Clair Shores community. Mrs. Candela has arranged all these prizes on her own by going door-to-door asking local businesses to donate a coupon to a school.

Mrs. Candela goes beyond her the traditional expectations of a teacher. She does so much for her students as in entering her entire class into a web contest the Michigan Council of Women in Technology has sponsored. In this contest we placed top 12 out of 144 girls. This is where we create a website for a competition winning a range from $50-750, and a tour around Mercedes Benz if you make top 6. We went to the Apple store in Partridge creek where they gave us flash drives and t-shirts and taught us how to edit videos in iMovie. She also took us to take a tour around the Compuware building where we met corporate managers and CEOs. We were able to see how they program the software and how did these amazing women make it so high in this technology career field. In addition, she took us to the Capitol building in Lansing, provided us with transportation, and arranged for us to present our sites to Senator Steve Biden and House of Representatives Sarah Roberts, and Governor Rick Snyder. She arranges all these amazing opportunities in her own spare time, time she could spend with her two adorable kids and husband.

Mrs.Candela has helped me get my name out to very important people, people who will help me expand in my career field. I have never met someone in my life who puts this much effort, time, hard work, and dedication into her kids. You feel the love and warmth from her as she speaks, she sees a burning potential in everyone, and she sure knows how to bring it out. As a senior, I will miss this amazing woman that I met four years ago. I can honestly say she has helped shape me into the person I am now.

Regards,

Dasha Jones

Senior

Lake Shore High School