



Extended Learning Program

June 24, 2019

Gerry Walanka
Founding Director
Stem Matrix

Dear Gerry;

Stem Matrix has very successfully provided our 4th and 5th grade children at Racine Unified School District with its unique, hands-on, inquiry-based STEM Education Program Model over the past two school years. I would highly recommend Stem Matrix to any other school district for inclusion as a supplemental program or otherwise within its school day or in an afterschool setting.

Your turnkey program has brought us a strong STEM curriculum, all needed materials and your classroom teaching teams of carefully selected and trained college students from Carthage College who have been extraordinary as teachers and near peer caring mentors with our students. The chemistry your team has developed with our children and how our children have responded to that chemistry with respect, attention and real effort has been noticed and greatly appreciated by our teachers and administrators. An unexpected bonus has been the professional development impact this has all had on our teachers without professional development ever being mentioned.

While children collected their program reward currency each week for performance and good citizenship, seeing them shop at the Stem Matrix Store during the big end-of-year interschool competition at Case High School was especially gratifying as each child left for home with a bag filled with first rate science toys. This program also uniquely involved family members who received feedback from their children weekly about Stem Matrix and who in many cases also attended the big competition.

I can be reached with any questions concerning Stem Matrix at the following email address and telephone number.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kathy Dunkerson'.

Kathy Dunkerson
Director of Extended Learning
Retired