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October 22, 2025

Subject: *Letter of Recommendation for Shanitra Singleton Deas*

Dear Members of the NABSE Doctoral Scholarship Committee,

It is with full confidence that I recommend **Shanitra Singleton Deas** for the **NABSE Doctoral Scholarship**. I had the honor of working with Ms. Deas in Richland School District Two at **Dent Middle School**, where she served as **Assistant Principal**. During our tenure there, I served as the English Language Arts Department Chair, Honors team leader, and AVID Elective teacher. From the start, Ms. Deas distinguished herself as an innovative, instructional leader committed to student-centered teaching and learning, which profoundly shaped campus culture and community relationships.

Ms. Deas approached leadership with strategic thoroughness and heartfelt purpose. She led with a deep understanding of how data-informed practices, professional collaboration, and culturally responsive teaching interconnect to elevate student achievement. Because of her leadership, professional learning communities at Dent Middle became impactful spaces for faculty reflection and growth. The intentionality she displayed in meeting teachers where we were helped expand our instructional capacity.

Additionally, Ms. Deas modeled an unwavering belief in the potential of every student. She worked tirelessly to ensure that instruction reflected the diverse identities and strengths of our learners, particularly in literacy, where her support of classroom libraries in every room was transformational. Whether facilitating team planning sessions, observing classroom instruction, or supporting curriculum alignment, she focused on access to and the joy of learning.

Her professional journey since leaving Dent Middle School has deepened my admiration for her leadership. As **Principal of Deer Park Middle School** in Charleston County School District, Ms. Deas cultivated an inclusive culture that empowered both students and teachers. In her current role as **Digital Sales Enablement Manager at 95 Percent Group**, she impacts educators and students nationwide by designing digital training systems and literacy initiatives that connect technology with evidence-based instruction.



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Ms. Deas's scholarly preparation reflects the same depth of purpose as her practice. She holds advanced degrees in Educational Leadership and Divergent Learning, a Bachelor's in English with a minor in Leadership Studies, and is a **National Board Certified Teacher** in Early Adolescent English Language Arts. She has been recognized by the **South Carolina International Reading Association**, presented at state and national conferences, and received numerous awards for excellence in literacy and teaching.

As a lifelong educator and leader who has witnessed Ms. Deas's growth, I can say that she exemplifies the spirit of NABSE's mission. Her pursuit of doctoral study represents not only an academic milestone but a continuation of her enduring commitment to advancing equity and excellence in education.

I offer my strong and sincere recommendation for **Ms. Shanitra Deas** as a recipient of the NABSE Doctoral Scholarship. She is an exceptional educator and leader whose intellect, integrity, and dedication will undoubtedly enrich the field of education and extend the proud legacy of NABSE. Please contact me should you require additional information or insight regarding her qualifications.

Kind regards,

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