***What makes a good dog team?***

***The dog***

* calm, quiet manner, and comfortable in an institutional setting; able to tolerate unexpected noises such as school bells and sudden movements, as well as the hands on attention of groups of enthusiastic, adoring children.
* solid, reliable obedience skills.
* able to ignore toys, shoes, leftover lunches, and other doggy temptations.
* tolerant of other dogs who may be on site.
* impeccable grooming, good health, and up to date vaccination status.

***The handler***

* personality traits similar to those of the dog.
* good knowledge of the dog and solid handling skills.
* enjoy spending time with children and willing to take an interest in their lives and challenges.
* patience and empathy with children who face life and learning challenges, and a willingness to support them.
* flexibility and an ability to ‘go with the flow’.
* a love of books (especially children’s books) and reading! and a willingness to share that love with children.
* neat, well groomed appearance.