



Chaparral Elementary School

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February 22, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Kirstin Barnard. It is not often that one observes a teacher embarking on her career with many exemplary practices already in place, but this is the case with Ms. Barnard. It is clear that she was excellently prepared for the many challenges that teachers, both experienced and novice, face as they prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century.

In her classroom, Ms. Barnard has created a student-centered environment in which standards for student work as well as conduct have been established. There is a high level of student engagement in lessons across the content areas, and due to procedures and structures that she has implemented, students can frequently be seen working collaboratively and participating in the academic conversations that are called for by the current standards. Through the use of varied instructional strategies and the integration of technology, Ms. Barnard is able to differentiate instruction as she provides a standards-based educational experience that is highly engaging for all students.

While supporting a community of learners in her classroom, Ms. Barnard is committed to continuing her own professional growth. She has shown a willingness to ask for help from colleagues, and is eager to learn and implement new skills and strategies. She participates in staff development opportunities offered through her local school district in addition to other educational agencies. She has become an integral member of her school's large staff, confidently contributing to her grade level meetings, and representing the staff on the District's Teacher Advisory Council.

I strongly recommend Ms. Barnard for any teaching position for which she applies. Her commitment to student learning, her desire for continued growth, and the positive attitude she brings to her work make Ms. Barnard an asset to any school fortunate enough to have her.

Sincerely,

Natalie J. Baptiste
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