



## *Chaparral Elementary School*

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am honored to write this letter on behalf of Kirstin Barnard who is currently in her second year as a fourth grade teacher at Chaparral Elementary School in Capistrano Unified School District. Ms. Barnard also taught in a fifth grade classroom during her teaching assignment as a student teacher during the 2015-16 school year. She is a hard working individual who is a dynamic addition to any class.

In the classroom, instruction is differentiated based on individual student needs across the curriculum. It is a student-centered environment where active learning took place. Students are encouraged to participate, express thoughts, ask questions, and listen to one another. She is organized and well-prepared for every lesson. Ms. Barnard students' participate in daily activities and instruction in online environments using Chromebooks. Ms. Barnard is a Google Certified Teacher that incorporates several online environments including Google Classroom, Edmodo, and Kahoot.

Ms. Barnard maintains a positive attitude about learning, which translates into a positive learning environment for both students and staff. She is a lifelong learner who has attended many staff development trainings including classroom management, depth & complexity, technology, and curriculum areas of language arts, math, and science. Ms. Barnard has proven to be reliable, enthusiastic, and a team player. She supported her grade level team in the use of technology, which included creating and scoring assessments in Google Forms. In addition, Ms. Barnard serves on many committees including the Leadership Team, District PLC Committee, District Teacher Advisory Council, and Teacher Development Board for Induction. She is also a Digital Literacy Teacher and CGI Trailblazer for the upper grades. Recently, Ms. Barnard attended the CUE Conference and led a workshop on screen casting.

I feel very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to come to know Ms. Kirstin Barnard and highly recommend her for a teaching position.

Sincerely,

Melissa Schaefer  
Principal