

## **To Whom It May Concern,**

It is my pleasure to recommend Rachel Lopez for a teaching position, as she has demonstrated exceptional promise during her time with us as a student teacher in training in our middle school art program. Rachel was also my practicum student in the Fall of 2022. Throughout her time at Billingshurst Middle School, Rachel has shown great dedication to both her personal growth as an educator and the success of the students. Rachel started on the first day of school observing and getting to know the students and has progressed from observation, to helping taking over a few classes, and finally taking over all of the classes.

Rachel possesses a strong understanding of artistic principles and techniques, which she effectively communicates to the students in engaging and creative ways. Her lessons are well-organized, innovative, and thoughtfully designed to meet the developmental needs of middle school learners. She is familiar with the Nevada visual arts standards and uses them when designing her lesson plans. She has a talent for making art both accessible and exciting, which has greatly contributed to the students' enthusiasm for the subject.

One of the most notable qualities of Rachel's is her ability to build positive relationships with students. She consistently shows patience, empathy, and respect, creating a supportive and inclusive classroom environment. Students feel comfortable expressing themselves creatively under her guidance, and it has been wonderful to witness their growth in confidence and artistic ability.

Rachel does a great job reflecting on her lessons and teaching strategies and makes changes when appropriate and adapts things when needed. Rachel follows the progressive discipline plan and works with individual students who may be struggling with behavior. She contacts parents when needed and has been attending IEP meetings, parent conferences and handling all sorts of school drills. She has eagerly contributed to school art projects presented in the hallways, and collaborative projects, always going above and beyond to ensure that students have opportunities to showcase their talents.

Rachel had a career as a graphic designer and has real world experience in the workplace. She is prompt, dependable, and professional. She has the passion, creativity, and dedication to make a positive impact in any educational setting. I am confident that Rachel will continue to grow and thrive as a professional educator. I wholeheartedly recommend Rachel Lopez for a teaching position and believe that she will be a valuable asset to any school community.

If you have any further questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Leslie Dandois

Art Teacher Billingshurst middle school

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