

25 February 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation for Karina Briseño with a mixture of enthusiasm, hope and a little envy and sadness because, as her Master Teacher and Department Chair, if there were an opening in my department, I would be doing my best to try to keep her here at Milpitas High School rather than letting her go. As things stand, all I can do is express to you what a wonderful teacher Karina is and how amazing I know she will become with time and experience.



From day one, back in August, Karina showed me that she had the qualities necessary to have her own classroom. Despite her youth, Karina's demeanor commanded respect from our students. She was not shy but jumped right in to help lead blended learning stations after observing one or two of my sessions with students. She is extremely detailed, organized and dedicated to getting things right. Karina would take copious notes of my teaching and then replicate my lessons with subsequent small groups of students. She was always very receptive to my feedback and eager to make any changes needed. Karina also had the guts to share her own opinions and ideas. She took the initiative to invent a vocabulary game to use with one period. I was so impressed that I allowed her to conduct her game the next day with all of my classes. This was back in August, I remind you because Karina was not supposed to be leading any lessons at all until November or December. It was a joy!

Karina's lesson plans are very thorough and complete. She is honing her skills in two styles of teaching. She conducts her 4th period in the traditional style, and her 5th period using blended learning. She decided that she wanted to be ready for any style that a district would be comfortable with or capable of providing to students. If a school for example is low tech, she will be ready for that, but if technology is supported, Karina will enthusiastically take advantage of those resources to provide her students with a true 21st Century learning experience.

www.unmundonuevo.org is the site that Karina is developing for her web assisted, Spanish class. On her website, she directs students to online tutorials and other resources that she has created or curated for her students. I am excited to see how her site will grow and what new resources she will develop to not only enrich her own teaching but to enrich the teaching profession in general.

If you would like more details regarding Karina's student teaching experience, please don't hesitate to contact me. I will recommend Karina Briseño to you enthusiastically and without reservation. Please don't let her slip through your fingers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Romero". The signature is stylized and includes a small flourish at the end.

Teresita E. Romero
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Milpitas High School
<http://www.queremoscalaveras.com>