

*Los Nietos Middle School*

*"A Supportive Learning Community for Continuous Growth"*

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March 1, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

It has come to my attention that Dean Ramser is applying for a teaching position with your district. This letter is in his support.

As an assistant principal at Bellflower Middle and High School, I had the pleasure of working closely with Mr. Ramser as his supervisor and evaluator from August of 2005 through the 2009-10 academic school year. He directly supported the school in the capacity of English core and intervention teacher, as well as girls' tennis coach. I can attest that through his dedicated service and active participation in the school, students made consistent academic and social growth, and administrators felt supported in their assignments.

Mr. Ramser had high standards for students' behavior and engagement in lessons. He planned strategic lessons that aligned to the grade level Standards. In his planning and execution of lessons, he was cognizant of the various developmental and academic levels of his diverse group of students. He used teaching strategies to accelerate students' learning of concepts such as direct teaching, cooperative groupings, small group and individual instruction, as well as SDAIE strategies. His use of graphic organizers and real world examples added depth and meaning to his lessons. He was well-versed in English literature and took great pleasure in painting the rich historical, political, social, and geographical context that related to the great works. He was astute at conveying his message in a clear, concise, and coherent manner that provoked critical thinking, whether in written or verbal format. It was clear that he enjoyed seeing students learn and strived to challenge them daily. This teacher's strong rapport with students, and determination to cover as much content area as possible provided students with critical knowledge and valuable learning experiences. I am confident that he will continue to make valuable contributions and fully participate in the professional learning community at your school.

As a committed member of a departmental team, Mr. Ramser took pride in his role of active learner and leader. He embraced opportunities to collaborate with colleagues on curriculum, instructional strategies, and assessment. His willingness to share ideas and learn from others was well-received. Mr. Ramser clearly conveyed a spirit of caring and knew that learning was at the heart of meeting high stakes accountability for students as measured by Academic Yearly Progress (AYP) and Academic Performance Index (API) growth targets. In addition, he understood that providing quality opportunities for students to achieve a balanced experience in school was paramount to upholding the school's vision of building successful futures.

On a personal note, Mr. Ramser held high expectations for himself and all those that surrounded him. He was professional in all interactions and maintained lines of communication open with administrators, teachers, and parents to listen and problem-solve. He valued shared decision-making and worked in the best interest of students. His flexibility, approachability, and willingness to go above the call of duty made him stand out as an unwavering professional in all aspects.

Should you require any additional information in support of Mr. Dean Ramser, I would be happy to provide additional examples of how his dedication to the field of education shaped the culture of achievement in the classroom and learning community. I can be reached at (562) 695-0637 (school) or (310) 962-4464 (cellular).

Sincerely,

*Jacqueline A. Cardenas*

Jacqueline A. Cardenas, Principal