

Application Related Information

Application: Application Not Verified
Grad Program Applying To: MIT

Iteration Name: 202330_GR_G
Program Name: MIT

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Alexandra Green
Recommenders Institution: River Ridge High School
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Arts Educator
Contact Name: Evan Schoepke
Recommendation Waiver Choice:
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 08/26/2022 12:13 PM
Recommendation Type: General
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000107719225

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.
Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:

Applicant ability as self-directed learner:

Time since last contact with applicant:

Applicant as productive member of group:

Relationship with Applicant:

Applicant most significant strengths:

Ability to complete rigorous grad program:

Responsibility/reliability:

Communication Skills - Oral:

Communication skills - written:

Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:

Ability to work independently:

Ability to handle stress:

Ability to think critically:

Ability to analyze/problem solve:

Ability to think creatively:

Openness to feedback:

Potential for leadership:

Ability to work in a team:

Personal/professional reflection:

Description Information

Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu>

Other Information

Created Time: 07/21/2022 12:01 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 08/26/2022 12:13 PM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier

August 24, 2022

To Whom it Concerns:

It is with great pleasure that I am able to write this recommendation for Evan Schopke. I have had the privilege of working with him for the 4th quarter of the Spring Term at River Ridge as he was the long-term substitute for the 2D and AP Art program.

Evan came to us during a very difficult time. Our current art teacher was out on a sudden and unexpected leave which had caused us to have several weeks of rotating subs. When Evan entered the room, our students had lost the consistency they thrived on, having a safe place, and an environment to develop their art skills. Having lost a safe space many students were unmotivated and defensive, clearly in a spot where learning was unable to happen until trust and relationships were built up. Evan came in with that understanding, immediately bringing in compassion and empathy, something the students desperately needed. Working with Evan, it was relieving to hear, that he saw all the misbehaviors, classroom issues, and defiance as a result of the trauma they had endured with no consistent and compassionate leader in their classroom. He inherently knew that these classes needed to heal before rigorous learning happened. This led him to creating multiple low risk art assignments that were easily scaffolded to what challenge level the students needed but fostered a risk free and forgiving environment. Students felt safe to make mistakes and the low stress assignments allowed Evan to engage with students to build relationships with quick pep talks, suggestions on next steps, and one on one teaching moments. It ensured students had their needs met in order to be slowly brought back into a working and safe environment. He treated them with compassion and kindness, acknowledged what had occurred, then provided them opportunities to grow as artists and scholars when they felt safe and ready to do so.

Another challenge Evan undertook when entering the art room was taking over an AP Art class whom had little direction on how to prepare and submit their portfolios. He was to not only support them in growing as an artist but making sure the artworks they were supposed to be creating this past semester were done and ready to be sent in only a matter of weeks. While I was the teacher electronically sending their work, Evan was vital to the success of every single student who submitted work for the Spring 2022 Art Portfolio. He would sit with the students giving them advice about how to strengthen their artwork and create a cohesive portfolio. Without him, student's artworks would be incomplete, portfolios not accurately put together, and the chosen artistic investigation jumbled. For a novice art teacher to be teaching AP Art weeks before portfolios were due, Evan showcased a strong ability to understand what the students needed in order to earn high marks on their art, and help them towards the 4's and 5's on the test.

With the challenges Evan has met with and overcome, he is an extremely strong candidate for the Evergreen Masters in Teaching Program. He has had weeks of classroom experience and experiences that placed him in some of the most challenge environments an educator can be in. Evan is already an outstanding educator and being in your program will make him an exemplary art educator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexandra Green', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Alexandra Green
Visual Arts Instructor
River Ridge High School
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