

Evergreen State College, MIT Program

Reference: Isadora Colpo

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write this letter of reference for Isadora Colpo, who is applying to the Master's in Teaching program at Evergreen State College. I have had the pleasure of working with Isadora for the last 2 years in my role as an educator at Olympia High School, where they worked as a para-educator in my classroom.

During these 2 years, I have been consistently impressed by Isadora's dedication to education and their passion for fostering a positive learning environment. They demonstrate an exceptional ability to connect with students, creating a classroom atmosphere that is both engaging and supportive. They are particularly skilled at working with diverse learners and finding ways to work with and support learners who are reluctant to engage. I have also rarely encountered a co-educator so adept at communication, both with staff and students. They are prompt, clear, and kind. I believe these attributes will serve them well in their future studies and teaching career.

A recent standout moment happened near the end of an English class when I was giving whole group direct instruction for the next day and Isadora was moving about working with individual students confirming understanding. They stopped at a particular student and seemed highly focused. Using eye contact with me, they were able to communicate a problem. The student was experiencing a mental health crisis. The student had become non-responsive and non-communicative. This was a new student to us and we didn't know his full history. As I dealt with the other students in the room, Isadora handled the entire thing with calm confidence. They notified the appropriate team members and allowed the student to maintain a level of personal safety and dignity. This could easily have been interpreted as a power struggle and it could have escalated, but this was all done with such a calm, quiet demeanor that most of the other students had no idea that anything was wrong. Isadora was an example of how to appropriately and professionally evaluate a student's emotional needs and address them.

Isadora's time working with me at OHS has been an amazing experience that shows how a person with their qualities can support the needs our students. I wholeheartedly recommend Isadora Colpo for the Master's in Teaching program at Evergreen State College. I am confident that their commitment to education and their passion for students will make them a valuable asset to your program and our teaching community.

Please feel free to contact me at 360-790-7565] or dinglin@osd.wednet.edu if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Deborah Inglin
English/Business Teacher Olympia High School