

Application Related Information

Application: Application Incomplete
Grad Program Applying To: MIT

Iteration Name: 202540_GR_G
Program Name: MIT

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Chelsea Peterson
Recommenders Institution: Olympia High School
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: English Teacher
Contact Name: John Kauffman
Recommendation Waiver Choice:
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 10/17/2024 06:40 PM
Recommendation Type: General
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000120496523

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

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:
Time since last contact with applicant:
Relationship with Applicant:
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:
Communication Skills - Oral:
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:
Ability to handle stress:
Ability to analyze/problem solve:
Openness to feedback:
Ability to work in a team:

Applicant ability as self-directed learner:
Applicant as productive member of group:
Applicant most significant strengths:
Responsibility/reliability:
Communication skills - written:
Ability to work independently:
Ability to think critically:
Ability to think creatively:
Potential for leadership:
Personal/professional reflection:

Description Information

Description:

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

Other Information

Created Time: 10/10/2024 03:02 PM
Modified Time: 10/17/2024 06:40 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier
Modified By: Josephine Bernier



Olympia High School

1302 North Street SE

Olympia, WA 98501

Phone: 360-596-7000 Fax: 360-596-7001 Website: <http://olympia.osd.wednet.edu>

Patrick Murphy, PhD. Superintendent - Matthew Grant Principal
Dan Casler, Asst. Principal - Liz Cornelius, Asst. Principal - Mallory Wilson,
Asst. Principal

To Whom It May Concern:

I have had the privilege of knowing John Kaufman for many years now. I first met him when he entered my freshman English class. I was fortunate enough to have him as a student the following year in my sophomore English class as well. Let me share with you the ways in which John has walked the path of a teacher long before seeking admittance to your program.

John has always been a thoughtful English student. During his sophomore year we were in the process of a curriculum adoption. He was in my 1st period class and was an integral part of our final adoption decision. This class was able to test and assess two curricula (Springboard and Pearson My Perspectives). His evenhandedness when approaching pros and cons after two three week units, was fair and astute. I invited the head of Teaching and Learning from the district office to participate in a final discussion regarding both curricula. John was able to express with clarity his preferences and couched them in the academic domain. For example, it was his acknowledgement of the need to interact with the text, have the ability to annotate, and engage with readings which supported our final choice. We still use this curriculum at Olympia High School today. He is a part of a legacy.

As an upperclassmen he then became my TA. This was an interesting situation because I was not only working with English students but English language learners as well. John was able to communicate key understandings. For example, helped students build knowledge and understanding of *The Great Gatsby*. He actively engaged with students and went the extra mile to lead lessons with the support of a substitute teacher in my absence. Due to his diligence in familiarizing himself with the material, he became an invaluable asset.

After his time at Olympia High School, he continued to lead and to mentor. He has been working with disabled youth for the past 2.5 years as a caregiver and also as an academic tutor. His mentorship and guidance has been not only social but also academic, opening doors for these children. His dedication to his community is boundless, and his connection with youth is stellar.

Overall, John is a natural teacher. He steps into the role understanding the importance of guiding and instructing in such a way as to permit the student to be the lead. He has a nuanced approach where he helps the student in self discovery of their own knowledge and skills, empowering them to be the driving force of their own education. In this way, he helps to build lifelong learners who have the skills to continue to grow regardless of the instructor or content. You need John in your program, and we need him in the classroom.

Most Sincerely,

Chelsea Peterson