



MINSTER HIGH SCHOOL

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this on behalf of Alexis Blum. Alexis has been teaching Spanish at Minster High School since 2015. Alexis is an extremely innovative, energetic teacher whose passion for both her content and students is on display each time I visit her classroom. She is both a positive role model for our students and rising leader on our teaching staff. Like most, our staff includes a variety of different personalities. Alexis relates to and works exceptionally well with each of them.

Alexis embodies the willingness to take risks that tend to separate good teachers from great ones. She is constantly searching for new methods to increase engagement and student retention of the Spanish language. Given that she is a department of one, this requires her to spend a tremendous amount of time networking with colleagues around the country. She accomplishes this primarily through skillful use of social media and other forms of technology. Once she discovers potential new methods, she embraces opportunities to experiment and implement them. As an example, two years ago she implemented a new (deskless) seating arrangement. This was a bold move in the context of our district's historically traditional educational approach. But it quickly paid off with a warm reception from her students and increased student participation.

Alexis creates a learning atmosphere that is equally challenging and fun. Her students are asked to demonstrate mastery in a refreshing variety of ways - which include speaking, singing, or creating original content. Students also know that Alexis genuinely cares about their overall well-being. She has advocated for their continued health and safety through the pandemic - reminding students of safety protocols while faithfully abiding to them herself. This engaging, supportive climate allows students to feel comfortable taking risks when asked to engage in unconventional activities like singing, dancing, making presentations, and much more.

For each of the above reasons, I find Alexis Blum to be the ultimate professional. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further clarity or additional information.

Sincerely,

Austin Kaylor
Principal