



January 11, 2021

Board of Trustees

Kathy A. Thompson
President

Joan R. Weiss
Board Clerk

Stacy C. Henry
Trustee

Hugh M. Jackson
Trustee

Barbara M. Rich
Trustee

Administrators

Donna L. Libutti
Superintendent

Michelle Dynes
Assistant Superintendent,
Human Resources /
Safety Preparedness

Eileen Galarze
Assistant Superintendent,
Student Achievement /
Educational Services

Lori L. Isom
Assistant Superintendent,
Business Services

To Whom It May Concern,

I am very pleased to write this letter of reference on behalf of Christina Espinoza. I have worked with Christina in a variety of ways and believe she is ready to take on the challenge of an administrative position.

Christina has been a lead teacher at Cucamonga Middle School (CMS) in the area of English Learners (EL) for many years. In that time, she has developed a program to meet the needs of students new to English and serves as a resource to the rest of the staff when they are looking for additional ways to meet the needs of these students. Christina has been a district resource for Advisory Committees and plays an important role in teaching and monitoring the students at her site, while helping parents access the school system. She is also a valuable member of the CMS Leadership Team and the CMS Visible Learning Leadership Committee.

In 2018 Christina was designated as the District Lead EL Teacher. In this role she was responsible for piloting, adopting and implementing the new ELD curriculum for our middle schools. She also coordinated the training for our middle school ELD teachers and continues to provide leadership in the program for both sites. Christina also works with two of our elementary schools to support teachers in their EL instruction. To begin this work, she conducted a needs assessment and reviewed student data to determine the goals for her work. She creates the meeting agendas, provides resources and facilitates Professional Learning Community (PLC) conversations focusing on student data and instruction. Both elementary schools have been responsive to Christina and have expressed appreciation for her expertise and support.

In addition to the work she does as a classroom teacher and as a District Lead Teacher, Christina also serves as a Center for Teacher Innovation (CTI) Reflective Coach for Central School District. In this capacity she observes new teachers and coaches them to success based on meeting exemplary descriptions of practice on the California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP). I believe her experience as a Reflective Coach, and the skills that it requires, are testimony to what an exceptional teacher she is and provides a strong foundation for moving into an administrative position.

Christina has a composed, thoughtful, low-key demeanor, that makes her easy to be around. She always appears calm and, when appropriate, asks thoughtful questions to ensure her efforts are aligned with the needs of the situation. She has a good sense of humor and is well liked by colleagues in the district.

As a middle school teacher Christina deals with multiple challenges on any given day. She always approaches these challenges with thoughtful, empathetic professionalism. She reflects on her own practice and decisions to ensure continuous growth as an educator. I know Christina possesses the personal, and professional characteristics necessary to be an effective administrator and recommend her for any position for which she applies.

Respectfully,

Eileen Galarze
Assistant Superintendent
Student Achievement/Educational Services