

February 2, 2012

To whom it may concern...

A letter of Recommendation

I was a freshman in high school the year I took Jennifer Hoffmann's Spanish 101 course. I can still recite most of the basics, which is amazing considering the class was just over ten years ago. I'm currently working toward my MFA at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and to this day Mrs. Hoffmann remains one of my favorite teachers. That being said, I'm more than happy to recommend her for the position available within your school.

Mrs. Hoffmann has worked with students at various grade levels, but I give her the most credit for having complete control over a classroom of ~25 teenagers. Because of her creative lesson planning and overall engaging personality, we looked forward to Spanish 101. I recall her teaching us tricks to remember certain grammar rules and the first day of class we all got to choose Spanish names to go by — she kept it interesting. Every once in a while we were rewarded with (educational) games, but only if we scored well on our quizzes and tests. Mrs. Hoffmann was fairly new to our school at the time, but never appeared timid, despite her young age, and overall very confident while remaining completely approachable. As freshman, we loved her.

I didn't go on to take anymore Spanish courses, but remained in contact with Mrs. Hoffmann in the halls and then on and off through my undergraduate degree (mostly through email and social media). Not only has she moved on from CHS to teach younger children and online courses, but every once in a while I catch wind of a project or educational program she's leading, seminar she's attending, or student trip she's organizing and I'm reminded of why she remains my favorite. Mrs. Hoffmann is motivated and continuously pushing the boundaries, there are traits I sincerely admire. She's in tune with where students are and up to speed on today's technologies, making her the perfect candidate for engaging students in a unique way.

She remains very personable and as an adult I look back at the positive relationship she formed with me and how that influenced my own life after high school. But it wasn't all about the students, she was also able to connect with parents, other teachers, and the community at wide. Mrs. Hoffmann is definitely a people person. She strives in challenging positions and is self-motivated enough to challenge herself when things grow stale. Based on her experience and qualifications, I think she'd make a great fit at your school.

Sincerely,

Victoria Pater

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