



Rocky Mountain High School

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"Knowledge is Our Future"

To Whom It May Concern:

This semester (Spring 2014) I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve as a cooperating teacher for student teacher Kaitlyn Birdsall at Rocky Mountain High School in Fort Collins, Colorado. During her nine week assignment at RMHS Kaitlyn was responsible for art instruction to students in grades 9-12. I was impressed how this truly outstanding individual and student teacher touched the lives of young people through her enthusiastic teaching, creative lessons, and positive attitude.

Her classes were organized with well-rounded strategies that were meaningful and challenging. In addition to supporting our established curriculum, Kaitlyn added new elements including computer technology. She had students create on-line portfolios (bulb) where they documented their creative process and reflected on what they have learned. She even took time to teach me some exciting things on bulb and I am in the process of creating my own site that I can use in the future. Kaitlyn had high expectations for herself and for our students. She was always searching for ways to bring students to a higher level of creative thinking, and this showed in the work that they produced. Kaitlyn is very confident in her artistic abilities. She shared her abilities with students by classroom demonstrations and a piece of her work is permanently displayed in our school. Kaitlynn was a student at RMHS and her work was chosen for a permanent alumni collection. These acts established her credibility. Kaitlyn's genuine concern for students' success and well-being enhanced her ability to handle discipline problems and to redirect student behavior. She treated the students with respect and they responded with kindness.

Kaitlyn became an integral part of the art department. She attended meetings, volunteered to help with animi club, she put up art displays, and spent many hours before and after school preparing for classes and helping students. Her professionalism and caring was evident.

I am confident that Kaitlyn is an excellent art teacher. She is a positive role model and will be an asset in many different ways to any school. I recommend you hire her for a position without hesitation. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to hear more about this great student teacher and wonderful person.

Sincerely,

Melisa A. Wolf
Art Teacher, RMHS