

Dr. Suzanne Alka
Principal

April 24, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Kristal Goodell. I have been her department chair for the three years that Kristal has been here at Gila Ridge High School. Having been a department head in English for thirteen years, I have never been as impressed with a young teacher as I have been with Kristal. What I describe doesn't even do her justice.

In the classroom, Kristal is phenomenal to watch. First and foremost, she connects with kids. As the saying goes, kids don't care what you know until they know you care. Kids know Mrs. Goodell cares and so they will do anything for her. Secondly, Kristal has great skills in the science of teaching. She came to us already knowledgeable and polished in the areas of lesson design, student engagement, classroom management, and assessment. Therefore, Kristal delivers meaningful, well-organized lessons that engage students in the learning and increase student achievement. Finally, extra bonuses that Kristal brings to her students and her fellow teachers are her positive energy, creativity, and use of technology. Kristal always has a smile on her face, and she sees the best in people and situations. She is not afraid to take a risk and try new things in the classroom. She has also encouraged her students and many staff members to be up-to-date with the technology in the classroom by using it in her lessons and sharing with other teachers.

Outside the classroom, Kristal keeps giving to her students and our school. For academics, she tutors before school, works with students after school, and supervises makeup school. Kristal also collaborates with her curriculum team and her interdisciplinary freshman team. In addition, she has developed curriculum during the summer for both Structured English Immersion classes and Cambridge English. Mrs. Goodell has participated in extracurricular activities as well, coaching the cheer squad and girls' soccer. Furthermore, Mrs. Goodell is a spark plug for school spirit. She dresses up for all spirit days and encourages other staff and students to join in.

After reading all of that, anyone would be exhausted. But Kristal Goodell accomplishes it all on a daily basis with a smile. We are thankful to have her on our staff at Gila Ridge High School; any organization would be lucky to have her.

Sincerely,

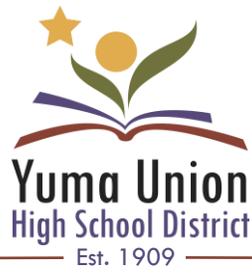
Beth Osowski
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Gila Ridge High School

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Dr. Suzanne Alka
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