



# Channel Islands

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

February 2018

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re: Oriana Horneck

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Oriana Horneck, an elementary teacher at Escola Americana do Rio de Janeiro (EARJ—American School of Rio de Janeiro) from 2012-2016. During that time Oriana taught Grades 2 and 3. I was the Deputy Superintendent and worked very closely with her from 2012-2014. I am presently a lecturer and student teacher supervisor at California State University Channel Islands.

Oriana is an outstanding staff member. She was at EARJ during a time of curricular change challenging the most flexible and positive staff members. The school implemented many new programs including Teacher's College Reading and Writing workshop and a new Mathematics curriculum fully implementing the Common Core Mathematics standards and materials.

As an educator Oriana is very well-versed in a variety of instructional methods and techniques. Her lessons are always focused on skill development using the most updated methods and strategies. Oriana establishes clear expectations and a consistent daily routine within a nurturing and supportive atmosphere. She uses varied assessments methods with purpose. Her students are excited to attend her classes and see the results of their hard work. She planned lessons with individual students in mind providing varied opportunities for each student's needs to be met.

Oriana manages a classroom with great skill. She creates structures and systems that allow the classroom to run in an ordering manner. Oriana is able to manage needier students with ease demonstrating fairness and consistency on a regular basis. She is always willing to find creative solutions to complex student issues that may arise. Oriana is willing to seek the advice of others as needed always choosing the path that best suits the student, even if it means more work for her.

Outside of the classroom, Oriana is a wonderful colleague and teammate. Her easy manner and focused professional attitude are coupled with a strong work ethic which makes her a sought after teammate. She works with others to develop a seamless system to align teaching methods and practices. Her programs are always rigorous allowing teammates to emphasize their particular skills and expertise. Oriana always shares the planning, preparation and teaching responsibilities in a generous and fair manner.

In the time that Oriana was at EARJ she was a strong and respected leader. She effectively served as a math curriculum review committee member. This committee discussed math standards and Oriana collaborated with grade other level leaders to design a scope and sequence of curriculum. In the midst of this work she also implemented Reading and Writing Workshop in her classroom with enthusiasm using the new system to ensure she differentiated for the needs of all of learners in in her class.

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Oriana's years as a skilled teacher prepare her well for an elementary classroom position. Her positive attitude, earnest work ethic and excellent technical skills further strengthen my recommendation. I spend every day in California elementary school classrooms assisting veteran and new teachers alike and can easily state that Oriana will be an invaluable asset to any school that hires her. Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information. I wish her all the best as she pursues her next professional challenge. Good luck, Oriana!

Sincerely,

Dr. Monica Medina

Previously Deputy Superintendent, Escola Americana do Rio de Janeiro

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