



Glenbrook North High School

Social Studies Department

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Recommendation for Dan Lazar

Mr. Lazar student taught at Glenbrook North during the first semester of the 1999-2000 school year. His classes included sociology and U.S. History. On the basis of his strong student teaching experience, I hired him to fill in for a staff member on maternity leave for the last five weeks of school. When a part time position for this year came about at the last minute, I hired Dan for this .8 F.T.E. position teaching sociology, psychology, U.S. History, and Urban Studies. I have formally observed his classes four times this year and have spoken to a number of his students over the course of the year. I have been very pleased with the job he has done! He plans very thoroughly for all his classes, has a strong rapport with his students, and exhibits creativity and flexibility when needed in response to student needs. He clearly communicates the learning objectives for the day and uses a variety of teaching strategies to deliver his instruction. What stands out most in his teaching style is his desire to reach every student and involve each one in an interactive discussion on the key issues and questions of the lesson. He challenges students to ask questions, formulate positions on issues and back them up with facts, and relate the material to their own lives. He has been very successful in getting students to be interactive and engaged in class. His classroom management skills are good and he creates a climate of trust and respect. He advocates for student success in learning and achieving and creates a positive atmosphere for learning.

He relates well with his colleagues in the department and has been cooperative and flexible when I have asked him to sub in an emergency or perform an "extra task". He has also been involved with co-curricular activities and attends many athletic and student performance events. Unfortunately, initial scheduling numbers indicate that there will not be a full or part time position available for next year in the department. If there were, I would be hiring him back! Mr. Lazar has worked very hard to be successful in his first year of teaching. He has the desire, skills, and passion to continue to grow and develop into a quality teacher, and it is my hope that he will find a position that allows him to continue his promising teaching career.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Rosholt

Richard M. Rosholt
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