



Carbon Valley Secondary Academy

Developing the knowledge and ethical skills for students
to succeed in higher education, business and their lives.

October 17, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I recommend, without reservation, Mr. Owen Cegielski as a history teacher at your school. For the past year and a half, I have had the great pleasure of collaborating with Owen. He is a strong leader, well-respected instructor, and an innovative teacher and therefore a great asset at our school.

Owen's leadership abilities shine forth in his ability to start new programs. He's rolling out the first Advanced Placement World History course at CVSA this year, after having spent a week of his summer attending the Cherry Creek AP Institute. Daily, he convinces sophomore and junior students that they have the ability to complete college-level coursework under his guidance. He also continuously adapts instruction to ensure that his AP students have the skill set necessary to be successful.

He also leads the RtI (Response to Intervention) team, which is new to our school this year. He is in charge of developing plans to help students who are academically or behaviorally at-risk. Also, during RtI meetings with parents, he serves as liaison between parents and staff, ensuring that everyone is heard. For the past two years, he has served on the Accountability Committee to improve CSAP scores in reading, writing, and math across all grade levels.

Furthermore, at the request of students and administration, he started Student Government during the 2009-2010 school year, which was quite successful. Under his guidance, students determined the organization of government, created campaign commercials and posters, and then went on to raise money to implement their campaign promises.

By teaching grades 6-11, Mr. Cegielski has developed a wide range of curriculum and teaching styles. He uses PowerPoint, Google SketchUp, mock trials, reenactments, (one memorable assignment requires students to write letters home from the trenches during WWI) and debates to bring history to life for his students. At the same time, he integrates reading and writing into his curriculum daily, preparing students for CSAP.

Mr. Cegielski is respected and admired by his students, parents, and staff members. His leadership, devotion, and work ethic will be a welcome addition to any school environment.

Sincerely,

Hannah L. Reese
Lead Language Arts Teacher
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