

Erinn Maestas
Barcelona Elementary Pre-K-5th School
2311 Barcelona Rd SW
Albuquerque, NM 87105
(505) 877-0400
April 16, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly recommend Christina (Tina) Nunez for the position as an Elementary Education Teacher. Tina is an exceptional teacher, extremely innovative, and a dedicated team player.

Tina taught at Barcelona Elementary School from 2004 to present, during which time I worked with Tina as a 4th grade colleague and as her Instructional Coach. As members of the 4th grade team, I found Tina's work as a 4th grade team player to be commendable and worthy of district level recognition. Presently, Tina and her team have developed a leveling process through collaboration and teamwork that has proven to increase student scores. Through careful planning and continuous collaboration, her grade level team has created a rotation schedule in order to provide every 4th grade student, with leveled reading and math, but also science, social studies, writing, and study skills. Through the instruction of Tina and her team, a majority of the students are leaving 4th grade well prepared for 5th grade and middle school.

Through my observations and collaborations as Instructional Coach, I have found Tina's diversity as a teacher to be evident through her ability to implement a variety of skills in her classroom. Her technological skills and quick wit are immeasurable. Every task set before Tina becomes a challenge, which she studies, analyzes, and adapts in order to achieve success in her classroom or with colleagues.

Tina uses observation and assessment to help identify students that are in need of interventions and/or a challenge. Through this same analysis, she also recognizes student achievement and progress. Tina accepts district directives and suggestions such as Daily 5, CAFÉ, and Promethean Boards and promptly begins studying and incorporating these new directive into her classroom.

Tina shows awareness of the various learning abilities of her students as she utilizes English Language Strategies to provide her students with techniques and skills to enhance their learning. Tina utilizes differentiated instructional strategies, such as Daily 5 and small group instruction, to provide time to address individual student needs and to develop independent learning. She has superb classroom management and utilizes positive reinforcement to promote her classroom expectations. Tina primary focus within her classroom is her student's interests and their academic/behavior progress.

Tina accepted the responsibilities as a Grade Level Team Leader and as a Reading Goal Team Co-Chair and has carried out these roles with professionalism and finesse. Her organizational skills and expectations were evident through the team's excellent track record of turning in data, information, and materials in a timely manner. Her attendance and involvement at each meeting held by her grade level team and the Literacy Goal Team has shown true dedication and a willingness to express her concerns regarding the students reading performance at Barcelona.

Tina is a very conscientious, professional, and hardworking individual. I am positive that you will be more than satisfied with her performance as a well-rounded educator. Her skills and presence will be greatly missed at Barcelona Elementary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erinn Maestas". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Erinn Maestas