

March 20, 2015

Dear Hiring Committee:

I am writing this letter in support of Carla Weber, who is applying for a position teaching English at the middle school or secondary level. Based on my observations of her work as a writing tutor for Cal Poly's University Writing & Rhetoric Center, I believe Carla is an excellent candidate for this type of position.

The tutors who work for Cal Poly's University Writing & Rhetoric Center offer one-to-one assistance to native and non-native speakers of English who may be struggling to achieve writing success in any course project in any discipline. Given both the diverse student population of students who use the center's services and the array of assignments students bring to the center, the center's tutors gain instructional strategies for succeeding in a variety of classroom contexts. As an undergraduate English major who then moved on to the credential program at Cal Poly, Carla trained to become a writing center tutor because she recognized the ways in which tutoring could enhance her understanding of teaching.

Carla's thoughtful pedagogy became clear to me after reading her tutoring philosophy, an assignment required of all tutors-in-training, and observing her one-to-one work with students in the center. Carla is keenly aware of and sensitive to the negotiations students often face when trying to communicate with different words, in different patterns of expression, for different audience expectations. That is, Carla has a gifted ability to connect with students and guide them as they learn to express themselves in a manner both appropriate for their audiences and true to their unique voices. I trust that her student-centered pedagogy will be an asset to the English Department at your school.

Based on my observations of Carla during her tutoring sessions and my conversations with her about the teaching of English, it is clear that she cares deeply about her work as an educator. Carla will surely bring to her teaching the energy and commitment essential to any school district. I recommend Carla Weber for an English teaching position without reservation, and I would be more than happy to speak further with you about my understanding of her qualifications.

Respectfully submitted,



Dawn M. Janke, Director
University Writing & Rhetoric Center