



April 15, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter by request and on behalf of Mrs. Amber Martin.

Mrs. Martin joined my staff at Mark Twain High School in September of 2010. I hired Amber to take an assignment as Art teacher and Apex (credit recovery program) coach. In that capacity Amber taught three Art classes and two Apex periods.

I noticed that Amber developed good rapport with her students and for that reason I invited her to be a co-advisor for our at-risk girls "Ten-to-Succeed" program. In this program Amber acted as a mentor to these ten female students and with the help of a colleague they have given these girls the opportunity to participate in activities such as camping, rock climbing, going to plays and even trapeze flying. This program has helped these students to bond and develop strategies to be successful in-and-out of school.

Even though this is her first year at Mark Twain High School Amber has been very active in our school community. She has been a member of our social committee and in that capacity she, almost single handedly, planned our staff's Winter Holiday Party. She also participated with her students in the planning and musical performances during our school's "Parents as Partners Night" and during our "All Twains Day" community event.

Mrs. Amber Martin integrated well into our school and our art program; she has been a good team player and a willing participant in our school's community. Amber was hired as a leave-replacement employee by our district and therefore has no rights to her position at the end of the school year. I am grateful for the job Amber has done at our school and therefore recommend her for any endeavor she wishes to undertake.

Please feel free to contact me for any additional information or clarification.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Alcantar".

Cesar Alcantar
Principal



San Diego Unified
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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March 30, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Amber Martin has only been at Mark Twain High for seven months, but she has made a powerful and positive impact on the entire Twain community. As our visual arts teacher and our tech-based credit-recovery program (APEX) instructor, Amber daily demonstrates her ability to connect to students. She is highly regarded by all the staff at Twain for her caring nature, sincerity and humor. Her rapport with our parents and community is strong, with on-going contact with her students' parents/guardians.

One of Amber's talents is her adaptability. She quickly mastered the district's APEX program, which allows students who received "Ds" or "Fs" to retake the classes via computer programs, so she could assist students in over 30 APEX courses. She acts as co-leader for our first "10-to-Succeed" girls' group, coaching ten at-risk students with camp-outs, cultural and service events, as well as academic tutoring.

Amber is creative. Her art students learn art concepts, as well as crafting exciting works of art. Her students learn about art history, as they "live" it, like learning about the artist Andy Warhol, while designing Pop Art color-blocked prints. Her students experience art while exploring all types of mediums, from charcoals to clay. She has extended her students' audiences by displaying her students' creations around campus and through collaboration with several humanities teachers.

We do not want to loose Amber Martin, but her position is tenuous with our district's budget woes and her lack of seniority. Amber would be an asset to any site. Amber Martin is on her way to becoming a truly fantastic and inspirational teacher.

Sincerely,

Jo Berman
Vice Principal