



SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL

A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL - CELEBRATING 140 YEARS OF ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE TO OUR COMMUNITY!

Brad Coscarelli
Principal

Monica Baldenegro
Vice Principal

Andrea Correia
Assistant Principal

Danielle Valente
Assistant Principal

April 12, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my absolute pleasure to recommend James Pennington as an English teacher. I have worked with James for the past school year. During the first semester, James observed and collaborated with me in a Sophomore English class. During the second semester, James was responsible for teaching the class of twenty-seven students.

During this time Mr. Pennington was responsible for planning and implementing the daily activities of the class, which included class work, quizzes, and group and individual presentations. James consistently demonstrated his awareness of learning styles and student needs. His lesson plans were thorough and well executed, making the material both accessible and challenging for the students.

James's lessons included Jurassic Park, The Monkey's Paw, and The Narrative of The Life of Fredrick Douglass. During each of these, Mr. Pennington was able to have the students pull from their previous knowledge and show connections to their experiences. Each day the students were asked to create a journal response to a question Mr. Pennington posed. Through this the students became more comfortable expressing their ideas through writing. After, Mr. Pennington would lead the students in a class discussion based on their responses. This routine helped to create an environment where students felt comfortable expressing and sharing their ideas.

What makes Mr. Pennington a strong candidate for teaching is his ability to relate to and elicit dialogue from the students. He brings a comfort to the classroom while challenging the students. Recently I missed a week of school due to surgery. During this time Mr. Pennington subbed for all of my classes. During my absence I came to campus to get some work done and was able to observe him leading my Honors Sophomore English class through Othello. On short notice Mr. Pennington prepared himself to conduct the class in a productive manner. His adaptability is worth noting and an essential skill set in this profession.

Once again, it is my absolute pleasure to recommend James Pennington as an English teacher. I am confident that he will be an asset to any campus and that the strengths that he has shown will continue to grow with opportunity. His confidence, knowledge and personality give him what it takes to be successful in our profession.

Sincerely,

Levi Jones