



Frank A Salinas
Academy Principal
Business & Law Enforcement Academy
S. P. Waltrip Senior High School

April 29, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to submit this letter of recommendation for Ms. Julie Brown, a teacher at S.P. Waltrip Senior High School in Houston, Texas.

Ms. Brown first worked with us as a substitute teacher from 2008-2010. Her solid performance even then drew our eye to her ability, and she joined our staff as a full-time English instructor in February 2010. This year, Ms. Brown took on the challenge of teaching our ninth-grade students who were reading below grade level.

I have seen Ms. Brown grow tremendously over the past two years. As her assessor, I can say that she exceeds the standards of our district both in instruction and core values. She has completed three courses at the University of St. Thomas as she works her plan to earn dual master's degrees in reading and English literature. As a leader, Ms. Brown has been active within the English department in general as well as on her subject-area team, where she works collaboratively with other teachers in lesson planning and designing student assessments. Our campus leadership is very much open to teachers taking a lead role, and Ms. Brown has done just that as a member of our Site-based Decision-making Team. As a participant in a federal grant program for teachers working in Title I schools, she also has served as a facilitator for a Critical Friends Group.

Ms. Brown has established her classroom as a fair and welcoming learning environment. Students who have been previously reluctant to learn or to read have flourished. Her lessons are active, hands-on, and collaborative, giving her students opportunities for real success and a genuine desire to participate. In addition, Ms. Brown advocates for her students when she discovers that their placement level is not suited to their learning needs.

We are very sorry to see Ms. Brown leave us, as our English Department will take a severe hit. A new teacher we will be able to hire, but it will be Ms. Brown's attitude and care for her students that will be most difficult to replace. I know she will be a tremendous asset to the school that brings her on board.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 713-688-1361.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "F Salinas".

Frank Salinas
Assistant Principal