

NYU Steinhardt

Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
Department of Teaching and Learning

March 17, 2015

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Ms. Megan Kosinski

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with both confidence and enthusiasm that I write this letter to endorse Megan Kosinski's application to join the faculty of your school. Having worked closely with Megan for over two years as her professor for three English education courses, I am highly confident in my knowledge of her.

Megan was one of the brightest students I've taught at MSU. Her intellectual gifts are incomprehensible, only complemented by unmatched levels of determination and character. She finished MSU with a perfect GPA, and perhaps more importantly, she was a standout in all three of my English Education courses. In addition, Megan is one of the liveliest critical educators I've worked with to date. She uses her mind (and wit) to explore the word and the world, revealing vast patterns of oppression that play out daily to the detriment of young people. She ponders questions of justice in education, an ever-evolving practice of critical thinking that blends sensitivity and compassion with rigor and high expectations.

I would rank Megan as among the top students that I've ever taught. She takes risks in the classroom, performing outside expected norms in order to push her own thinking and the thinking of her peers. She is above all critically aware, creative, efficient, punctual, easy to work with, hopeful, and passionate about issues of quality as well as equity in education. In so doing, she seeks ways to use the classroom to heal the socially wounded and educate the enlightened mind. She is committed to teaching past surfaces, moving toward pedagogical depths that few teachers rarely venture. She is an educator of the highest order, determined to teach not only in places of the heart, but also in hard places to transform the experiences of youth (and teachers) within them. She is needed.

While she has many impressive characteristics, Megan's extreme concern for others and deep knowledge of English(es) stands out. As mentioned earlier, she's earned a 4.00 GPA in her MSU undergraduate and graduate course work, has tutored athletes at MSU and youth within the Lansing, MI area, and has created insightful lessons on transformative English teaching. Personally, I have seen Megan locate herself in the classroom to posture healing, using texts to cover wounds and the exploration of them to uncover injustices for the purposes of interrupting chronic cycles of inequity. In this way, Megan is a rare intellectual who blends care with creativity, charisma with character. Her unspoken moral and intellectual dignity contributes to the important work of improving the lives and academic futures of young people, especially those with the most need and who lead lives on the educational boundaries.

Megan is the ideal candidate for your position. Her insatiable thirst for knowledge and openness to new and sound ideas will enable Megan to benefit, perhaps, more than others from this unique opportunity. Indeed, your school would gain tremendously from having her among its faculty. Therefore, it is without reservation and with extreme honor that I **very highly endorse** Ms. Megan Kosinski. I very much hope the selection committee judges her application favorably.

Sincerely,



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