

BRUCE LEIPZIG, MD

KELLI MOULTON, PhD

SUPERINTENDENT GISD

JOSEPH PILLAR,

PRINCIPAL, BALL HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 8, 2018

RE: JULIA RAMIREZ, Ph.D.

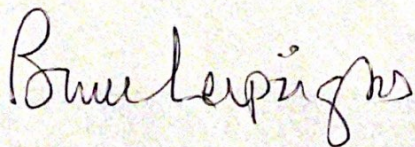
Without prompting or otherwise, I am writing this letter concerning Dr. Julia Ramirez out of the observations and my personal experience working closely with her to bring a new, exciting, and almost impossible dream to the STEM/ Biomedical program at Ball High. I may be out of line, but the extremely high level of work and independent involvement by Dr. Ramirez requires that she be recognized as going way above the duties of her office in the interest of both students and faculty, to promote the creation and realization of a unique Gross Anatomy Laboratory and also a Cell Culture/ Biotech Laboratory which will and does place the STEM/ Biomedical Program at Ball High in the highest echelon of hands- on science teaching anywhere in the United States.

Julia picked up the ball when Marsha Ricks left her position over a year ago. Along with all of her required and additional responsibilities, she contacted me as the chairman of the STEM/Biomedical Advisory Committee. Together (but clearly with the leadership of Dr. Ramirez!) we mapped out the new laboratory programs, and then she took off. She organized the entire approach to gaining a specific and creative grant- in- aid from Moody Methodist Church Permanent Endowment Fund;

She also organized and got backing to start a program for students to be tutored in test taking as an advanced course to acceptance into college and beyond.

These programs were considered in our Advisory meetings, but we needed her push and incredible leadership to make them happen. I am in awe of her honesty and ability to corral the faculty on her side; her constant good humor, and most of all, her willingness to give of herself and her talents to write grants, meet with faculty and us at any time (even when she should be with her family!) and do anything and EVERYTHING so that the STEM/Biomedical labs are a reality. I can only imagine that she puts this energy, talent, and enthusiasm into everything she does for Ball High School. She is a gem to be treasured and we are all very blessed to have her.

I think I'm in love!!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Leipzig". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.