

Jan 13, 2020

Sub: Recommendation letter for Sarah Grunblatt

To whom it may concern:

I was Sarah Grunblatt's supervisor at Johns Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth Program for Gifted and Talented middle and high school students from across the U.S and from countries like China, Japan, S.Korea, Canada, etc. Sarah taught a course on 'Fast-paced high school chemistry'. The big units of the course were on physical and chemical properties, the periodic table, the atom and atomic theory, chemical bonding, nomenclature, the concept of the mole, chemical reactions and stoichiometry, solutions, thermodynamics, acids and bases, kinetics, equilibrium, and a brief introduction to organic chemistry.

This 21-day long intensive course covered material ordinarily included in a year-long introductory course in high school chemistry (a usual prerequisite for AP or IB Chemistry). Apart from conducting various experiments in the labs, the students also spent significant time doing mathematical calculations during the course.

I visited Sarah's class several times each week and found her to be an excellent instructor. She was always informative and engaging in the classroom, encouraging students to participate and engage in a dialogue.

Sarah demonstrated very high facilitation abilities through the course when she helped students create their own experiments to present to everyone at the program. She provided encouragement and timely feedback in order to nudge the students in the right direction while providing room for them to explore on their own and make their own mistakes.

Sarah's class had few students who had more advanced abilities and would always be ahead of the class with regards to finishing their personal assignments. Sarah provided differentiated learning to them and made sure that they were given challenging work as per their abilities.

Overall, Sarah Grunblatt is a very knowledgeable, passionate, dedicated, energetic, attentive and caring teacher. She got a really great review from her students as well as from other supervisors at the Johns Hopkins Program.

Sincerely,

Pankhuri Nigam

Site Director

Johns Hopkins CTY (June-August 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)