

Open World Learning Community Independent School District 625

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From: Grant Boulanger, Spanish Teacher and Crew Leader, Open World Learning Community

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Mr. Joseph Gorton

Date: October 31, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my great pleasure to recommend Mr. Joe Gorton for admission into any competitive institution of higher education. I have taught Joe seven consecutive years, as Spanish teacher, academic advisor (Crew leader), and neighbor.

As a Spanish student in my Spanish 1, 2 and 3 classes, Joe was an excellent learner, and collaborative classmate. He demonstrated persistence and positive risk-taking.

As a neighbor, I have seen Joe grow from shy pre-teen, unwilling to engage in social activities, to confident, hard-working young man with a healthy group of core friends. He shares enthusiasm and creativity with children as a camp counselor for the inimitable Adventures in Cardboard summer programs.

I best know Joe as Crew member. In Crew, a multi-age group of OWL students from grades 6-12, students engage in community service, social-emotional learning, and academic advising. Joe is quick to assist crewmates. His willingness to step in to lead elements of Crew illustrates how he values and works to preserve Crew's culture. In the last two years Joe has worked with our technology coordinator to troubleshoot school website issues, refresh and repair student iPads, secure video streaming for our theater department and begun to code a database that will allow OWL students to efficiently log community service hours.

I proudly and without hesitation recommend Joe Gorton, a quiet, humble leader who takes guidance, tries his best and spreads positivity, for higher education at the school of his choice. He will be a great asset to any program.

Grant Boulanger, M.Ed.