To Whom It May Concern:

It is my honor and privilege to recommend Trek for a teaching position in the science department at your school. Trek joined us as a teacher assistant here at Celia Cruz Bronx High School of music in January 2022. During his time at our school, he built meaningful relationships with our students, actively planned and prepared interactive science lessons, and developed an innovative and engaging game that supported students' study habits. He left a lasting impression on both his colleagues and the students he taught.

Trek is always organized and well-prepared for each class. He sets exceptionally high standards and expectations for every student in each of his classes, and provides them with clear, written objectives. He takes the time to get to know his students and share part of his identity with them, creating a classroom culture that encourages students to feel free to speak, offer ideas and take risks in a safe and fun environment.

Trek is also technologically savvy and supported our curriculum planning with out of the box ideas. He proactively set up our 3D printer and printed precisely measured mason jar lids that fit our CO2 probes for students to use during their fermentation research and lab projects. This was key in students being able to carry out their lab experiments and obtain reliable and valid results. This is the kind of attitude and perspective that Trek embodies.

Furthermore, Trek developed an interactive game that allowed students to study for an upcoming unit exam. In my six years of teaching, I have never seen the level of engagement that this game brought to our classroom. The game allowed all students to access the content and work collaboratively in small groups while also competing against other groups in the class. After students completed the unit exam, we compared results from previous unit exams where the game wasn’t played and saw a 50% jump in passing scores. An innovative strategy that yielded amazing results and boosted students’ confidence.

Although it is with sadness that I see Trek leave Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music, I am happy to recommend him for a teaching position at your school. It is my opinion that any high school would be fortunate to have a science teacher of Trek’s caliber. I am confident that he will prove to be a valuable member of your faculty.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions at (917) 821-0266 or via email at ccollins10@schools.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,

Carliana Collins

Special Education Teacher

Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music