

Dee Towner  
Human Resources Manager  
Los Gatos-Saratoga High School District  
17421 Farley Road West  
Los Gatos, CA 95030

Sherri Howard  
Head Counselor  
Shasta High School  
2500 Eureka Way  
Redding, CA 96001

27 August, 2009

Dear Madam,

This letter is to introduce Alexandra Ranker to you, and to unreservedly recommend her for any teaching position that you may have available. For over a decade, Alexandra has worked as a substitute, a Home and Hospital teacher and as a private tutor.

As a substitute teacher she was one of the most requested substitutes in the Shasta High School District as she was actually able to follow a lesson plan in any discipline so that students did not fall behind when she was in charge of any class from advanced math to chemistry to foreign language. She was conscientious, professional and always more than prepared to deal with difficult and complex subject matter and often, difficult and complex students.

As a Home and Hospital teacher, Ms. Ranker was one of the few H &H teachers who could be counted upon to remain in constant contact with teachers, present ALL the relevant material to students, and see that students returned to any and all classes with all of their work from the period of extended absence completed, and completed well. She often gave of her own time to accomplish this if she was working with a sufficiently motivated student.

As a private tutor, Alexandra has successfully delivered students completed of a variety of on line Brigham Young University Extended Education courses by the end of summer or the end of a term in classes ranging from Algebra to Calculus to Spanish to US History and more. Often, these were students who had athletic or other extracurricular commitments that prevented them taking the class during the course of a regular school day, or students who had failed the course in question and were unable to attend summer school classes. She has worked with Advanced Placement students in many disciplines, and has been a valuable resource because of her experience as a reader for the English Literature AP exam. She has also been a reader for the 2006 SAT, and has expertise not only in preparing students to take the SAT or the ACT, but in the composition of effective and concise college essays. It is unusual to find someone who can work not only with advanced students and keep up with some of our brightest teens, but someone who can also work with teens who suffer from learning disabilities, especially ADD/ADHD, but Alexandra is such an educator. In the last five years, she has worked hard to develop a sub-specialty working with children who are thus challenged, and has had great success.

In short, she is tireless in her work whether it is to acquire the knowledge that she needs to teach a particular subject or whether it is to advocate for the students with whom she works. She will be sorely missed in the Redding educational community, but we all wish her success and joy in her future life.

Sincerely,



Sherri Howard