

Genesee Valley Board Of Cooperative Educational Services

Our mission is to lead collaboratively in creating quality solutions to emerging educational challenges.

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Michael A. Glover, Ph.D., District Superintendent

June 21, 2007

To Whom It Concerns:

I am writing this letter of recommendation for Mr. Carlos Ossa, a Spanish teacher I have worked with this school year.

Mr. Ossa started at the Genesee Valley BOCES Batavia Academy in March of this year. The Academy is an alternative education program for seventh through twelfth graders. He teaches Spanish to eighth and ninth graders. Although he has only been here for a short time, Mr. Ossa's impact on students has been significant. Students who stated that they did not like Spanish and had failing or just passing grades during the first half of the school year started to participate and enjoy Spanish class.

Mr. Ossa's classroom is decorated with colorful student work and posters. He integrates technology in almost every lesson. Every time I walked into his classroom students were actively engaged in work or discussion. Paraprofessionals who worked in the room with him raved about his rapport with students. These same staff had been assigned to Spanish classes with the long-term substitute teacher who covered most of the first semester of the year. Additionally, Mr. Ossa had almost no disciplinary issues with his classes. His easy nature and ability to keep students engaged with meaningful work played a large part in this accomplishment.

Overall, I find Mr. Ossa to be a very positive student-centered professional who made Spanish significant to students who found it boring or worthless previous to meeting him. Mr. Ossa worked part-time in the mornings, but he made himself part of the Academy team with little effort. I understand that he is seeking a full-time position. If I could create one at the Academy to keep him, I would. Unfortunately, the small number of students in the program precludes me from doing so.

I highly recommend Mr. Ossa for a teaching position with middle school and/or high school students. He is an exceptional educator. If you have any questions or would like to discuss his candidacy for a position with your district, please feel free to contact me at 585-943-7145.

Sincerely,



Dawn Larson, Principal
Batavia Academy

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