

February 29, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

Genaro Garcia asked me to write him an academic reference letter and my immediate thought was *where do I even begin to describe a young man who is as impressive and outstanding as Genaro?* I had the privilege of being Genaro's 8th grade English Language Arts teacher. Other than Genaro's obvious charisma and likability, one thing that really stood out to me about this young man is his work ethic. Genaro was not like his peers in 8th grade. I remember him taking his time on his work while others rushed through to get time to socialize. He prioritized his grades and his involvement in sports. He asks a lot of questions. He doesn't want to just get things done, he wants to do it right and do it well. He is ambitious and has such an incredible drive. He rose to the challenges I gave him, and it was truly rewarding as an educator to challenge a student like Genaro and watch him grow in his education.

It was also incredible to watch him work with his peers. He is a natural leader, but he's also patient, kind, and helpful. I'll never forget him giving a high five and praising a classmate who struggled through presenting to the class because of nerves. To Genaro it may have seemed like nothing big, but to his peer and to me it was everything. He is passionate about his goals and ambitions, but he's also caring of the people around him.

He's one of those students that you just know is going to do something absolutely incredible in life, and to be a part of his story and his education is an honor. Wherever Genaro Garcia ends up, he's going to do more than just show up and work hard, he's going to leave his mark forever.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Zazick

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