



March 21, 2011

FROM: Brian Riley  
300 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St  
Suite 21000  
Austin, TX 78701

TO: Cathy Colmenares Suarez

To Whom It May Concern:

As Site Director for The New Teacher Project's Texas Teaching Fellows contract, I have worked with Cathy Colmenares Suarez in several capacities over the past year. As a Fellow in the Texas Teaching Fellows (TTF) program, Cathy was a high-performer and model student. Her knowledge as an educator and her commitment to educator quality are evident in myriad capacities. Through her work as a Fellow in the program, Cathy demonstrated leadership skills, constant learning, maintained high expectations, and exhibited the motivation needed to achieve ambitious goals.

Cathy Colmenares Suarez participated in our 6-week summer training Institute and exceeded expectations on her work products, field experience, and observations. Her ability to learn quickly paralleled with her motivation allowed her to excel. Cathy was one of our strongest Bilingual Education teachers and successfully prepared for and passed her required TExES exams on her first attempt. As a Fellow, she was quick to lead group discussions, push the cohort to maintain high expectations for all students despite roadblocks and barriers, and collaborated well in team settings.

While working with Cathy, I saw consistent evidence of establishing goals. She worked with Pre-K students to help prepare them for Kindergarten and developed strategies to establish their foundations in literacy, connected with them during one-on-one instruction, and assisted with general classroom and campus duties on a daily basis. She sets high expectations and exhibits the characteristics of constant learning. Cathy Colmenares Suarez is a natural leader and consummate educator.

Sincerely,

Brian Riley  
Site Director  
Texas Teaching Fellows Austin

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