

Zach Wood  
Mililani Middle School  
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To Whom it May Concern:

I was approached by Zachary Hansel to write him a reference letter and I hope that I can write him one that will do him justice. I have been a colleague of Zac's for a few years now and have had the chance to work alongside him this current year teaching the same subject. Before we worked together, I knew him mostly by reputation and from what I observed. What I saw was someone who valued education in all aspects: the students, professional development, colleagues, after-school programs, and our school itself. When our principal approached me and asked me what I thought of her consideration to put him in the new position of Tech Ed teacher alongside me, I was ecstatic. She had told me that they were bringing someone to work with me previously and in my mind, I was hoping it would be him because I knew of his abilities and skills that relate to our subject.

Since we have taught together, I have had the chance to see first-hand how he works. He has helped me turn a mediocre curriculum into one that truly encompasses what a STEM course should look like with greater rigor and interdisciplinary practices. I have seen how he has a wonderful rapport with students and gets along so well with all who are in his class. Lastly, another value I have witnessed with Zac is that he has a natural leadership ability. I knew of his previous after-school programs that he created and led himself and just this year, he has taken on VEX IQ robotics and led all three of our teams to state championship berths.

In conclusion, I have enjoyed working with Zac and am beyond impressed with his love for teaching and am quite saddened that he is leaving. However, I know he will be a highly valuable asset to the school that brings him on its team.

Sincerely,  
Zach Wood  
Introduction to Tech Ed  
Mililani Middle School