

9-6-21

To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to write a great recommendation for one of the best teachers I have ever observed. Torey Culbertson is a phenomenal classroom teacher. He has extraordinary knowledge of his subject matter and an in-depth knowledge of how to engage young learners in his history. He uses the best and most researched methodologies that are proven to enhance learning within his classroom. His students regard him as a wise role-model and love his classes. Mr. Culbertson is fair, supportive and academically challenging.

He is also exceptionally knowledgeable and adept at providing specialized instruction for Special Education students and English Language Learners. His skills have been honed with extensive experience working with At-Risk students. He worked many years with students at the continuation high school and at the middle school level in the Baldwin Park School District, where a predominant percentage of students are very low income. He has also worked with a variety of very high achieving groups of students where he excelled.

Torey is expert at incorporating music, art, technology into his lessons. He is also well versed in AVID, TCI. Mr. Culbertson is an expert on History/Social Science Standards. He stays in contact and often uses resources from Stanford and UCLA. His knowledge in the pedagogical needs of kids is very extensive. To help his students and his parents he has created a comprehensive website that is a plethora of resources for his kids. (humanitiesforwisdom.org)

He takes seriously his responsibilities and can be counted on to help out in any situation. In these extremely volatile political times, Mr. Culbertson is very aware and careful about presenting all sides of issues, and being a very balanced teacher.

I am fortunate to have worked professionally with Mr. Culbertson for fifteen years. Without hesitation, I would highly recommend him to you. His knowledge, professionalism, empathy and high standards, for both himself and his students, make him an extraordinary teacher. You would be lucky to have him.

If you have any questions or need follow-up, feel free to contact me at 951-533-8398.

Thank you,



Lynn Reck, History Department Chairperson, Sierra Vista Middle School

Sierra Vista Middle School
Baldwin Park Unified School District
13400 Foster Ave.
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
626-962-1300

September 22, 2021

To whom it may concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Mr. Torey Culbertson to you for a position as a teacher at your school. I have been fortunate to work with Torey since August 2013 when he first came to Sierra Vista Junior High School as a History teacher. I worked with him while I was a Math teacher, then for three years in my assignment as the Curriculum, Technology and Intervention Coach, and now as the Interim Assistant Principal.

Since coming to Sierra Vista, Torey has shown his leadership skills in many ways both in and out of the classroom. He has brought a wealth of knowledge from his previous experiences and has used it to enhance his teaching and leadership responsibilities at our school. Torey is extremely competent and always willing to learn new things to expand his knowledge base. He has vast curriculum and lesson design knowledge. He is terrific at following directions, being a team leader and player, and showing initiative for getting done what needs to be accomplished. Torey is very organized and prioritizes his workload in order to accomplish all tasks in a timely and efficient manner. Torey has excellent interpersonal skills with students, staff and parents. He is always available to assist a student in need. Torey adheres to the grade level standards and follows our district curriculum in each assignment. I know the students benefit from his dedication and passion for education.

Torey is a compassionate and knowledgeable teacher and school leader, and I know he will add to your school if he is given a position. His integrity and desire to promote the education and success of all students will certainly guarantee the success of your school community as well as his own personal achievements. I have seen that his leadership qualities, true compassion for children, and ability to learn quickly and apply his knowledge have translated into him being a wonderful educator. I know he will keep up the great work and provide a good solid education to all students in his charge. Any school who adds Torey to their staff will be lucky. I am sure you will agree after working with him.

If you have any questions or need any further information regarding Torey, please do not hesitate to contact me at (626)962-1300.

Sincerely,



Candace E. Goble
Interim Assistant Principal

Sierra Vista Middle School
13400 Foster Avenue
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
Phone: 626-962-1300
Fax: 626-856-4577
<https://sierravistajr.bpusd.net>



Interim Principal – Alejandra Cervantes
Interim Assistant Principal – Candace Goble
Counselor – Maribel Verduzco
Counselor – Janet Jauregui

September 21, 2021

To whom it may concern,

Mr. Torey Culbertson has been a U.S. and World History teacher at Sierra Vista Middle School since December of 2013.

I have had the privilege of working with Mr. Culbertson for the past six years serving as Assistant Principal. During the 2016-2017 school year I collaborated with him through the evaluation process. During that time I observed Mr. Culbertson's strong content knowledge, his implementation of research based instructional practices and a strong commitment to universal access for our students. These abilities and practices still hold true as Mr. Culbertson navigates to support our students return to in person instruction after a year and a half of digital learning.

As an interim principal, I continue to collaborate with Mr. Culbertson in an effort to nurture a professional learning community. I have also witnessed Mr. Culbertson's high priority in maintaining a positive school climate and culture. He is respected and highly regarded by students, parents and staff. He works to create a positive rapport with high expectations for all students.

Mr. Culbertson uses various tools and strategies to ensure students meet their academic goals. He has used his website, behavior journals, student notebooks, and warning cards in conjunction with establishing a social contract to guide students. He contributes his knowledge and experience to the administrative team ensuring that our decisions are well thought-out and appropriate for our site by asking valuable questions and contributing possible solutions.

I continue to enjoy working with Mr. Culbertson and appreciate his contributions our site, our community and for our students.

If you have any questions, or would like to hear more about Mr. Culbertson, please contact me via email at aecervantes390@bpusd.net or at 626-962-1300.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alejandra", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Alejandra E. Cervantes
Interim Principal
Sierra Vista Middle School

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March 15, 2015

To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Mr. Torey Culbertson. I have had the opportunity of working closely with him for several years. Mr. Culbertson is an exemplary teacher who has a very rigorous, yet empathetic teaching repertoire. He has an excellent academic knowledge base, unusually rigorous standards and calm, fair and respectful manner with all of his students.

I have had the Pleasure to personally observe and formally evaluate and critique his teaching skills as his Assistant Principal. His lesson was extraordinary in its rigor, use of interesting political cartoons and music from the time period, integrated into the lesson. There was respectful discourse, collaborative work in teams and intellectual content that was at a high level. The formal observation and evaluation results were excellent. His value and expertise as a teacher cannot be exaggerated.

Mr. Culbertson has great classroom management. He holds his students accountable, but yet is very unusual in the fact that he never finds it necessary to send a student out of the classroom on referral or detention because his classroom management deems this unnecessary.

Mr. Culbertson's vast knowledge of the history content makes it effortless for him to bring high interest, antidotes into his lessons. He is also experienced at using materials from Stanford's Reading Like a Historian [SHEG] and UCLA Center X, and TCI materials, AVID Write Path, utilizing forward thinking curriculum.

His professional and caring demeanor would make him a perfect choice to teach summer school. He has a lot of experience teaching students with special needs and at risk youth. He has taught all of the high school coursework in the past and has resources to enhance and engage his students in the learning.

Thank you, and if you have any questions please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Lynn Reck
951-533-8398

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lynn Reck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "L" and "R".

JANET ANDERSON
Principal

JOHN S. SMITH
Assistant Principal
Curriculum, Instruction,
and Guidance Services

JANET WICHMAN
Assistant Principal
Student Services



MARNIE DAM
Counselor

MARYLIN GARCIA-PECK
Counselor

TERRY K. SALARDINO
Counselor

JANET WALDRON
Counselor

1401 FREMONT AVENUE, SOUTH PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91030

TELEPHONE: (626) 441-5820 FAX: (626) 441-5825

November 23, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to endorse the candidacy of Torey Culbertson for a position as a Social Studies teacher in your district. I had the pleasure of working with Torey about seven years ago when I was a Dean of Students at Hoover High School and he was a Social Science teacher. We crossed paths again when I hired Torey to teach two Government classes at South Pasadena High School this past summer. I was his direct supervisor for two months and I was extremely impressed by the many fine qualities he demonstrated in his job.

Torey is extremely well organized. He is an individual who prioritizes his responsibilities well and accomplishes each one. Mr. Culbertson did a great job planning lessons and units to keep the students engaged for the two and a half hour classes each day. He found his way around a new school with no problem. Torey's colleagues were impressed with his professionalism and friendliness. His students also enjoyed his class and said that he had a way of teaching government to keep them interested.

It has been a true pleasure to work with Mr. Culbertson. I am very confident in Torey's knowledge base and preparation for his teaching position. He puts in countless hours in all he does and has high expectations for his students. He has a sunny disposition and is always ready to help. With his enthusiasm and talents, Torey will be an asset to any school district that hires him.

If you have any questions please feel free to call me at (626) 441-5820 ext. 2908.

Sincerely,

Janet Wichman
Assistant Principal
South Pasadena High School



North Park High School

Elaine Taketani, Principal

4600 North Bogart Avenue, Baldwin Park, California 91706

Phone: (626) 337-4407 Fax: (626) 856-4402

May 22, 2008

RE: Torey Ray Culbertson

To Whom It May Concern:

It gives me great pleasure in writing this letter of recommendation for Torey Culbertson. He has been a teacher at North Park High School since April 2005. During that time, he has taught several courses in the Social Studies Department. His assignment has included World History, Law and the Student, Physical Geography, and Economics. Torey was also instrumental in initiating the Reconnecting Youth Program, which is funded by the School/Community Violence Prevention Grant. The program is research validated through the University of Washington. It assists at-risk youth in three areas: (1) mood management, (2) school achievement, and (3) drug and alcohol abuse. Data indicates that this program has impacted students at North Park positively, which can be attributed to Torey's perseverance.

Torey works extremely well with the at-risk teen. He is caring and sensitive, yet challenges students to think critically. He maintains standards and holds students accountable for their actions. Torey is efficient, organized, and meticulous in planning his lessons. He has a breadth of knowledge and demonstrates expertise in his subject matter. He captivates his audience with his wit and humor. The respect and admiration from his students has been well earned.

Torey Culbertson is bright, articulate, and diligent. He has the ability to do an outstanding job at whatever he attempts. He is a strong candidate for any position for which he is qualified. Please contact me at (626) 337-4407 if you need more information.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elaine Taketani".

Elaine Taketani
Principal

Baldwin Park Unified School District

3699 North Holly Avenue, Baldwin Park, California 91706

Phone: (626) 962-3311

Fax: (626) 856-4900



North Park High School

Jackie White, Principal

4600 North Bogart Avenue, Baldwin Park, California 91706

Phone: (626) 337-4407 Fax: (626) 939-4437

May 24, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

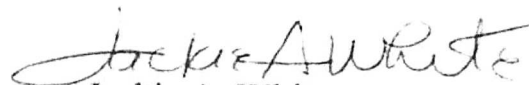
It is a pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Mr. Torey Culbertson as he pursues a teaching position in your district. I have known Mr. Culbertson for two months, since he accepted a temporary contract in the Baldwin Park Unified School District. I am his principal and his evaluator. Mr. Culbertson took over for a teacher who left the school for another position. It has been a true challenge, and Mr. Culbertson has proved himself quite capable. North Park is a continuation school that serves the at-risk students, and the position requires patience and creativity.

I am impressed with Mr. Culbertson's innovative classroom management strategies, his enthusiasm and his rapport with the students. He has worked very hard, and has helped several students get back on track.

Because of the possibility of an employee returning from a leave of absence, I have not been able to offer Mr. Culbertson a contract for next year. This has no bearing on his performance. He is a teacher I will definitely recommend to re-hire, given the opportunity.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,


Jackie A. White



1950 Third Street
La Verne, California 91750
909.593.3511, Ext. 4151 • 909.392.2718
Fax: 909.392.2701
www.ulv.edu

Knowledge • Service • Vision

September 27, 2005

Ms. Torey Culbertson
1766 Bellford Avenue
Pasadena CA 91104

Dear Ms. Culbertson:

It's that time again! Please find enclosed your weekend instructor packet including a syllabus construction checklist and ULV faculty services brochure. Below is a list of courses you are teaching in our Fall 2005 semester, Accelerated Sunday format. Your class assignment is:

1912 EDUC 310 Foundations and Ethics in Education 4 units Undergraduate

The payment periods for the Fall 2005 semester are:

November 26, 2005 and December 23, 2005

Please make note: Your syllabi for Fall 2005 courses are due NO LATER than Monday, October 10, 2005. Also, your official contract for these courses will follow in early October 2005 with your room assignments for the Fall 2005 semester. If you have any questions regarding your scheduled meeting times and dates please feel free to contact me by phone or email at copeland@ulv.edu.

Thank you for your time regarding this matter.

We look forward to working with you again this semester!

Sincerely,

Erin M. Copeland
Administrative Assistant II
CAPA Professional Development Center



February 10, 2004

City University of New York at Queens
Department of Early Childhood and Elementary Education
65-30 Kissena Boulevard
Flushing, New York 11367

James Madison Fellowship Program
P.O. Box 4030
2201 North Dodge Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52243-4030

Dear Sir or Madam:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Torey Culbertson, a friend and colleague I have had the pleasure of knowing for the past 7 years. I met Torey when he and I were graduate students at the University of La Verne in La Verne, California. I at the time was an elementary school teacher, Torey a high school Social Studies teacher. Although we did not teach similar subjects or similar grades, the reasoning behind why we were in the field of education became evident through class and personal discussion. Torey and I both shared a similar interest in some of the major tenets behind liberatory theology.

Liberatory theology in my case was the belief that the attainment of liberation through literacy could change ones in subjugated and oppressive positions in society. This idea, for the poor and dispossessed, was a philosophy fueled by the work of Paulo Freire, an educational theorist who conducted work with illiterate adults in San Paulo, Brazil. In contrast, liberation theology for Torey, stemmed from the Jeffersonian idea that citizens can make intelligent and informed decisions at the polls if they are literate about the government and its political process.

We were both educators attempting to instill in our students the importance of being literate and informed citizens. Torey and I discussed the many activities and discussions he and his students shared regarding the history and intention of the founding fathers in regards to due process and democracy. His passion and interest in the subject matter was evident in the long hours he would place in the preparation for his coursework and the interest he took in individual students.




Through their writing and class discussion, it was obvious that his students were critically investigating the United States in regards to public policy initiatives and their intent. They became motivated about the subject matter and were eager to actively participate in class discussion and activities. The result was that students began to realize that if they were informed, they could be active participants in the political process in the United States; one of the many intentions devised by the writers of the Constitution. These behaviors and this form of critical inquiry, as witnessed by myself an educator as well, is an event that typically does not occur on high school campuses of today. I was impressed by the stories, activities and discussions presented.

I am at present a Professor at the City University of New York at Queens College and am no longer a classroom teacher. However, those remembrances of our conversations and discussions as the University of La Verne with Torey create a longing for me to return to the classroom. However, I am comfortable with the fact that there are individuals such as Torey as high school classroom teachers.

I understand Torey as an exemplary individual with the capability of succeeding in any endeavor of his choosing. He has proven to his students, and the field of education; excellence and dedication.

It would be would be a disservice if an individual such as Mr. Culbertson were not supported and encouraged through institutions such as the James Madison Fellowship Program. I trust that you will make the right decision and provide the needed support necessary to maintain his position in the area of the Social Sciences.

Sincerely,


Lisa J. Scott

Professor
City University of New York at Queens
Powermaker Hall 054L
(718) 997 5308



2-6-04

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of support for Mr. Torey Ray Culbertson. Mr. Culbertson was the most outstanding student of my Mexican Politics class last Fall. As his professor, I had the opportunity to closely observe his academic performance. I was most impressed by his intellectual development and growth. He displayed a rare ability to improve in both his writing ability and his conceptual skills. He wrote insightful short papers and a term paper that could be publishable with minor revisions. Besides these strengths, Mr. Culbertson is a diligent and goal-oriented person. He is highly committed with continuing his career in education. We have the opportunity to share ideas about teaching issues. His performance at CSUN has been also outstanding. The Certificate of Achievement he got in Fall 2003 from the Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Science attest to that.

I fully believe that Mr. Torey Ray Culbertson would be an excellent candidate to get the James Madison graduate fellowship. He possesses all the necessary skills, essential to succeed in school and to continue his career as educator.

If you would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me (marosa01@csun.edu).

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "María Rosa García-Acevedo".

Dr. María Rosa García-Acevedo
Assistant Professor

February 16, 2004

To Members of the Selection Committee,

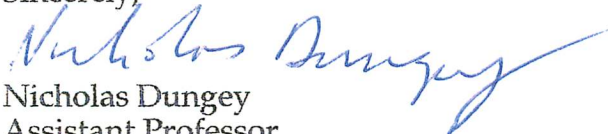
I enthusiastically support Tory Culbertson's application to the James Madison graduate fellowship.

Tory was a student of mine in an upper-division political theory course. From the start, he struck me as highly intelligent, and very enthusiastic about the things of the mind. He earned a very high "A" in the course. His grade was based on in class exams and a medium length research paper. His exams were well prepared, thorough, and nicely composed. His performance clearly indicates the ability to engage demanding literature, comprehend the material, and relay it in a timely, cogent manner. He writes well and has demonstrated solid research skills. I have no doubt that he is intellectually capable of succeeding in graduate school.

In the year that I have known him, Tory consistently impressed me with his discipline and focus. Always on time, prepared, and never flagging, his spirit and desire to learn are rare. In addition, he has demonstrated his civic mindedness through a variety of teaching and mentoring roles he has undertaken. There is no doubt that he will use his education to benefit the community. As such, he is an ideal candidate for your scholarship, and a wonderful investment.

Tory has been a pleasure to teach and know. I recommend him for your fellowship without hesitation and with great enthusiasm.

Sincerely,



Nicholas Dungey
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
California State University, Northridge



South Pasadena High School
Pasadena, California

2-27-04

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of support for Mr. Torey Ray Culbertson. Mr. Culbertson was the most outstanding student of my class last semester. As his professor, I had the opportunity to closely observe his academic performance. I was most impressed by his intellectual development and growth. He displayed a rare ability to improve in both his writing ability and his conceptual skills. He wrote insightful short papers and a term paper that could be publishable with minor revisions. Besides these strengths, Mr. Culbertson is a diligent and goal-oriented person. He is highly committed with continuing his career in education. We have the opportunity to share ideas about teaching issues. His performance at CSUN has been also outstanding. The Certificate of Achievement he got in Fall 2003 from the Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Science attest to that.

I fully believe that Mr. Torey Ray Culbertson would be an excellent candidate to the social science position in your school. He possesses all the necessary skills to excel in his career as an educator.

If you would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me (marosa01@csun.edu).

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "María Rosa García-Acevedo".

Dr. María Rosa García-Acevedo
Assistant Professor



UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE

June 5, 2001

To the Selection Committee:

Mr. Torey Culbertson has asked me to write a reference letter for employment as a Secondary Social Science teacher. I do so with enthusiasm for I am confident that Mr. Culbertson will do a superb job. I had the privilege of observing his enthusiastic teaching/classroom dynamics numerous times; I was impressed.

I was the candidate's *Student Teacher Supervisor* during the Spring 2000 semester. He very *effectively, competently* and *creatively* taught Economics, Introduction to Social Sciences, and U.S. History. Such a varied list, especially for a beginning teacher, suggests the breadth of knowledge he has for his discipline. I have been an educator for approximately twenty-five years; without a doubt, Mr. Torey Culbertson is one of the **best** student teachers with whom I have worked. It is a sheer delight to work with someone who truly desires to learn and do a thorough job.

It was clearly evident that Mr. Culbertson integrated his teacher training into his student teaching experience. He was *consistently* aware of the various ways in which students learn, in the purest sense. Torey effectively addressed the *needs/learning styles* of his students. To be able to meet such crucial challenges today reflects the candidate's adaptability and concern that **each** student can be educated in a manner that works best for him/her.

It was apparent that a great deal of thought went into every lesson. In addition to the rich knowledge-based content, Torey's lessons were fundamentally interesting. His enthusiastic introductory "*hooks*" and "*intos*" generated high-level interest, stimulation, and learning from the *beginning to the end* of pedagogically sound lessons. In all classes, students were focused and engaged, which helped to minimize discipline problems. The "*time on task*" *pacing* and *transitions* were a result of his diligent preparation and classroom management skills. I looked forward to observing his classes. Frankly, I learned a lot as well!

Another point worth noting is that Torey was always current with relevant/significant news/pop culture events. He beautifully integrated such information into his instruction. With *Language Arts* being emphasized so much in this state, Torey made his contribution by frequently recommending grade level appropriate books that reinforced classroom standards. The additional reading stimulated Torey's students to engage in various levels of critical thinking.

In addition, Mr. Culbertson frequently augmented his instruction with "*hands-on*" items, including drawing historically-oriented cartoons. Quite an innovative idea.

Of his own volition, Mr. Culbertson got involved with other duties associated with being an educator. Again, he is one who desires to soak up all he can. He regularly attended department meetings, participated in parent/teacher conferences, worked with district and state academic standards, and assisted with student assessment for grade reports. To my recollection, he helped establish rubric-based cooperatively graded student writing samples, created meaningful and innovative bulletin boards and more.



UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE

Letter Of Recommendation
Mr. Torey Culbertson
Page 2

During my observations, it was apparent that students were eager to get to class. They wanted to know what "*trick*" Mr. Culbertson was going to pull out of his bag of "*goodies*" that day. They looked forward to the intellectual stimulation provided daily! His "Socratic" style of teaching worked well.

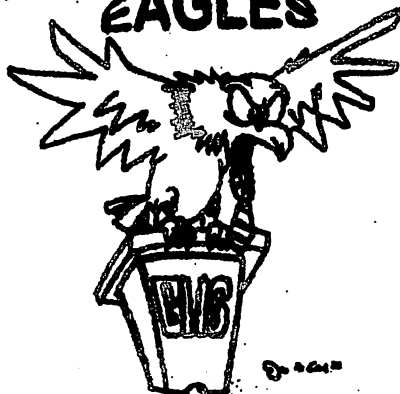
It is evident that I can not say enough about Mr. Torey Culbertson; he is a "*natural*" when it comes to being an educator. I ask that Personnel Officers very seriously consider this candidate. He will make an excellent addition and contribution to any teaching staff. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at my home telephone number during the summer break (909) 599-0678. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Foreman, Ph.D.
Student Teacher Supervisor

RF:jg

THE SCREAMIN' EAGLES



GABRIELINO SPEECH & DEBATE

**GABRIELINO SPEECH TEAM
DEREK YUILL: DIRECTOR
1440 LAFAYETTE
SAN GABRIEL, CA 91776**

June 4, 2001

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is in support of Torey Culbertson. I have been fortunate enough to get to know Torey as a teacher for the past year here at Gabrielino High School. During this period, he has demonstrated the knowledge, ability and motivation necessary for this field of endeavor.

I coach one of the largest and most successful speech & debate teams in the state. The vast majority of our school's top students are on our team and in my room all the time. When our students talk about teachers, they use words like, intelligence, motivated, organized, sensible and, occasionally, great. Our students use so many of these words in describing Torey. He has a tremendous amount of excitement and energy and delivers that in his classroom on a daily basis.

In a time when our society has become disenchanted with our nation's government and detached from the political process, Torey empowers the students to get involved, to stand up for what they believe in. Its this kind of motivation that created our country and its this kind of teaching that will help keep it a world leader.

In my conversations with Torey, I'm amazed at his knowledge of law and The Constitution. I'm even more amazed with his desire to share that knowledge with everyone. When teachers can teach other teachers, something is going right.

Torey certainly cares about students, possesses the knowledge to guide them and the desire to empower all people around him. We teachers should feel lucky he chose our field for a profession and is not in a law office making ambulance chasing advertisements.

I give my recommendation for Torey Culbertson. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at school 626-573-0214.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Derek Yuill'. The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font with loops and flourishes.

Derek Yuill
Director, Gabrielino H.S. Speech & Debate Team
Chairman, East Los Angeles National Forensic League District



SAN GABRIEL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
GABRIELINO HIGH SCHOOL

1440 Lafayette, San Gabriel, California 91776, (626) 573-0214
Student Center (626) 288-3722 FAX (626) 573-2367

5 - 31 -01

To whom it may concern,

I have worked with Torey Culbertson for the past two years. We have been members of the Social Science department at Gabrielino High School. As a result of our similar job descriptions, I have had the privilege of working with Mr. Culbertson in curricular areas. Our collaboration on the course content for a 9th grade Social Studies course has been beneficial for the students' academic growth and meaningful in our professional development as teachers.

I was fortunate to be a peer evaluator during Torey's completion of student teaching through the University of LaVerne. My role in the process was to perform two formal evaluations of Mr. Culbertson during his teaching day at Gabrielino High School. The teaching strategies, interaction with students, and knowledge of subject matter were exemplary. His compassion for students is evident in his genuine and fair dealings with them. Furthermore, he is able to incorporate complex course content into meaningful and stimulating lessons.

Torey's relationship with me as a peer is also worth mentioning. I have been encouraged by his willingness to assist me in my new challenge of teaching A.P. United States History. He has extensive background in this area and aided me with content and materials virtually on a daily basis. His patience and encouragement with my professional needs were equal to that of his dealings with his students.

I would recommend Mr. Culbertson for any position needing a compassionate and dedicated instructor with vast knowledge of the Social Sciences. His ability to effectively communicate his passion for learning to students is an immeasurable asset. These skills coupled with his ability to empower students to be critical thinkers and make decisions on their own make this candidate an excellent choice for further teaching opportunities.

Sincerely,

Frank Green
Social Science Teacher
Gabrielino High School



SAN GABRIEL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

408 JUNIPERO SERRA DRIVE • SAN GABRIEL, CALIFORNIA 91776 • (626) 451-5400 • FAX (626) 451-5494 (626) 295-3206

“Our Children’s Future Is Our Mission”

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SUSAN NAEVE, Ph. D.
Asst. Supt. Human Resources
JOHN W. PAPPALARDO
Asst. Supt. Business Services

December 20, 2002

RE: Letter of Reference for Torey Culbertson

To Whom It May Concern:

Torey Culbertson was employed as a social science teacher at Gabrielino High School from September 1, 1999 to June 21, 2001. His annual salary effective June 21, 2001 was \$50,097.

Sincerely,

Susan Naeve, Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

BOARD OF EDUCATION

CRISTINA ALVARADO • LEE H. FREEMAN • DANIEL R. HERNANDEZ • GARY T. SCOTT • KEN K. TCHENG

January 30, 2004

Torey Culbertson
1766 BELLFORD AVE
PASADENA, CA 91104

Dear Torey:

On behalf of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences we congratulate you for your recent academic achievement at California State University, Northridge.

You have been awarded Dean's list status based on the grade point average you earned for courses completed during the Fall 2003 semester. We applaud you for the dedication you have given to your studies and the admirable results obtained. Your achievement is a credit to the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and we wish you well as you continue to succeed in the future.

Sincerely,



Stella Z. Theodoulou, Interim Dean
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Enclosure

DEAN'S LIST
CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

PRESENTED TO

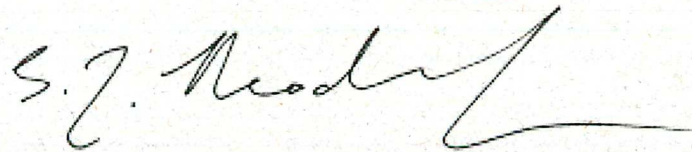
Torey Culbertson

Fall 2003

IN RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN THE

College of Social
and
Behavioral Sciences

California State University
Northridge



Stella Z. Theodoulou, Interim Dean

July 25, 2003

Torey Culbertson
1766 Belford Ave.
Pasadena, Ca 91104

Dear Mr. Culbertson:

This letter is to inform you that the Graduate Committee of the Political Science Department has decided to admit you into the Master's Degree Program in Political Science as a "Conditionally Classified" graduate student beginning with the Fall 2003 semester. The committee felt that although you had the requisite GPA for entry into the program, the absence of a major in Political Science at the undergraduate level will require that you take additional courses in Political Science so as to bring your knowledge of the discipline up to a minimum level for graduate study.

Thus, in order to change your status from "Conditionally Classified" to "Classified" you will be required by the Department to take the following courses: Political Science 350, Political Science 355, any one course from those numbered Political Science 430-439, and one proseminar course (Political Science 471). The Political Science 430 and 471 courses may be applied toward your official Master's program and counted as elective courses. You will also be required by the Department to maintain a GPA of 3.0 in the first 9-12 units of Graduate studied. The university will require that you pass the Upper Division Writing Proficiency exam (which is required of all non-CSU graduates) before your status can be changed

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about these requirements, or the program, that you may have. You should be receiving official information from the university over the next few weeks. After the Fall semester begins, I would encourage you to visit me during my office hours so that we may plan your official program of study for the Master's Degree.

Once again, congratulations upon your acceptance. We look forward to your future accomplishments while in the MA program.

Sincerely,



Alexandra Cole, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor and Graduate Coordinator



SAN GABRIEL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
GABRIELINO HIGH SCHOOL

1440 Lafayette, San Gabriel, California 91776, (626) 573-0214
Student Center (626) 288-3722 FAX (626) 573-2367

May 18, 2001

To Whom It May concern:

Torey Culbertson has worked as a teacher in the social studies department of Gabrielino High School for two years. He taught classes in American Government, Economics, and a course entitled Introduction to High School and the Social Sciences.

Torey is very articulate, full of energy and vitality, and a great critical thinker. As a teacher in the social studies, he was well-prepared, thorough, able to grasp difficult concepts with ease, and very creative. He was exemplary in his presentation of his material in the classroom. I found him to be highly motivated, especially in his ability to challenge students in the areas of contemporary issues and application of critical thinking skills.

Torey relates well to students and his peers outside of the department. Although he interacts well with others, he is capable of exceptional individual work as well. He appears very devoted--to his friends and to his classes.

Torey appears to be a man of integrity. He is purposeful, trustworthy and compassionate. Torey appears to know what he wants and seems singularly driven to accomplish the ends for which he seeks. Torey is well-read and well-rounded academically. He is also self-disciplined.

I would recommend Torey Culbertson to any teaching position which would require a well-prepared, challenging and highly individualistic teacher.

J. Michael Hammett
Social Studies Department Chair
San Gabriel Unified Mentor Teacher

MAX SHINER

January 26, 2002

Dear Admissions Officer:

Please consider my recommendation of Torey Culbertson as a candidate for admission to your law school. I have been a friend of Torey since we met in high school in 1984. Torey may have asked me to write this letter of recommendation because I am myself a lawyer. You should consider this letter, however, because I know Torey well enough to comment not just on his ability, but on his character.

Torey is a man of intense dedication and scrupulous character. Over the course of our friendship, I have observed the focus of his energy change from one goal to another, but he has always proceeded with incredible devotion. In Torey's teenage and college years, this dedication resulted in him becoming a national-caliber athlete. Success in sports is--in my view--an over-used and imperfect analogy for success in other endeavors, and I would hesitate to mention it were the dedication he demonstrated in that part of his life not present in all his endeavors.

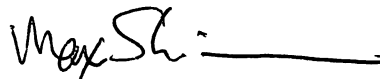
I have seen this quality in his work to organize the alumni of our high school to raise money to keep the aquatics program there alive. Torey has been able to contact all but a handful of the people who have been through that program in the last few decades. Notably, Torey's advocacy of the program always focused on the fact that it was one of the most racially diverse aquatics programs in the area.

I have also seen this devotion in Torey's work as a teacher. In teaching history and government, Torey has clearly striven to give his students more than the typical curriculum. His home library of history books is amazing. His favorite topic of conversation the law surrounding the educational system, and his desire to expand what he is able to teach his students to include issues of justice that affect their lives. I believe Torey will apply his legal degree to help improve the learning environments in schools, as this has long been his interest.

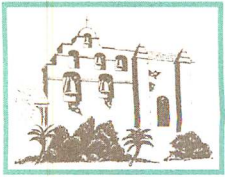
Finally, I have seen Torey's dedication in his personal interactions with students. I have assisted him in coaching summer aquatics programs, and seen how Torey focuses high-school students on his concepts of fair play and tolerance. I also know how his students feel simultaneously challenged by him and grateful to him for his efforts to push them to achieve, while treating them equally.

Torey's defining quality is his sense of fairness. I am certain that this is what draws him to the law. Since I am a lawyer and a friend, we often discuss issues of fairness in relation to the law, and we frequently disagree. But Torey's opinions are always based on his unyielding sense of fair play. This integrity will make him a valuable addition to any law school class. His dedication is what will make him succeed.

Sincerely,



Max Shiner



SAN GABRIEL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

102 EAST BROADWAY • SAN GABRIEL, CALIFORNIA 91776-1894 • (626) 285-3111 • FAX (626) 285-3206

“Our Children’s Future Is Our Mission”

ADMINISTRATION

GARY E. GOODSON, Ed. D.
Superintendent
BERJOUHI P. KOUKEYAN, Ed. D.
Asst. Supt. Educational Services
JOHN W. PAPPALARDO
Asst. Supt. Business Services

May 17, 2000

Torey Culbertson
Gabrielino

Dear Torey,

Thank you very much for applying to teach High School Summer School. We are pleased to inform you that your name will be submitted to the Board for approval at the meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 23, 2000

You are tentatively scheduled to teach the following class:

Make Up U.S. History

Be advised that employment and assignment in summer school are contingent upon enrollment.

If there are any questions, please contact me.

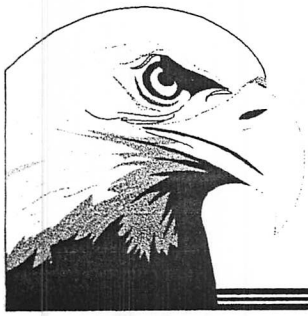
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Crist".

David Crist
Summer School Principal

BOARD OF EDUCATION

FRANK D. CLAYTON • LEE H. FREEMAN • DANIEL R. HERNANDEZ • GARY T. SCOTT • NANCY TRASK



Gabrielino High School
1440 Lafayette Street
San Gabriel, California
91776
(626) 573-0214

28 January 2000

Thomas C. McGuire, Ph.D.
Department of Education
University of La Verne
1950 Third Street
La Verne, California 91750

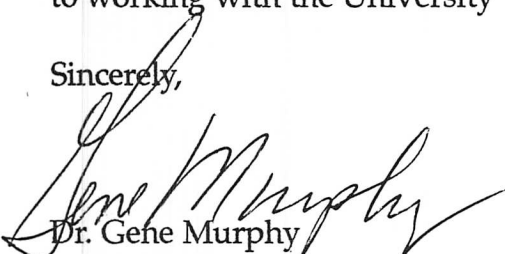
Dear Dr. Mc Guire:


This is to certify that Torey Culbertson has been employed to teach in the San Gabriel Unified School District at Gabrielino High School for the 1999-2000 school year. His single-subject assignment is Freshman Social Studies, U.S. History, and Senior Government / Economics. This assignment will enable him to meet the University requirement of working in his credential area. In addition, Gabrielino is well over 25% ethnic and linguistic minority, meeting cultural diversity requirements.

Although Mr. Culbertson is an experienced teacher with five full years of teaching under his belt, there are several mentor teachers on campus with whom he can conference about teaching methods, classroom management, standards and curriculum alignment. All of the mentors are capable of providing Mr. Culbertson with any coaching he may need.

We are pleased to have Mr. Culbertson as a contributing member of our staff at Gabrielino, and will comply with the other student teacher requirements listed in the CTE agreement. Please contact me should you have any questions regarding Mr. Culbertson's assignment. We look forward to working with the University to help clear Mr. Culbertson's credential and CLAD certificate.

Sincerely,


Dr. Gene Murphy
Principal, Gabrielino High School


Mr. David Crist
Assistant Principal, Stull Evaluator

CLARK MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL

4747 New York ♦ La Crescenta, CA 91214 ♦ (818) 248-8324

March 2, 1999

If you are looking for a confident and powerful teacher/coach, then you have found one in Torey Culbertson. Coach Culbertson was in charge of the entire aquatics program at Hoover while I was Athletic Director. He was the varsity coach of the girls' and boys' water polo programs and the girls' and boys' swim programs. Torey's experience in running the aquatics program at Hoover was more than challenging, since he took over a program in turmoil and disarray. In his first year, Torey rebuilt the entire aquatics program to one of pride for parents, students and staff.

Torey is an athletic director's dream. His endless work ethic, strong moral character, pride in the school, and passion for the sport is contagious. The students love swimming for Hoover because of Coach Culbertson. The number of swimmers in the program tripled as a result of his strong leadership and exceptional coaching. Advanced to beginning swimmers thrived under his instruction and care. He treats all swimmers equally and his judgments in resolving conflicts are fair. The team concept is firmly emphasized and reflected in the cohesiveness of the squad. Setting team and individual goals comes before winning for teams coached by Torey. He is a firm believer that proper goal focus is the key contributor to success. Our second year girls water polo program reflected this philosophy. Even though their win/loss record improved tremendously, they never lost their enthusiasm for swimming even though they lost more games than won. Coach Culbertson always has organized practices and enhances learning by getting into the pool to demonstrate a skill or needed strategy to his eager team.

Torey is trustworthy and responsible. In a day when coaches are misappropriating funds, he is an exception. He began a booster club and all monies were readily available for me to review. He has a strong report with parents and is respected by faculty members. His classroom is a reflection of his coaching; a powerful learning environment in which students thrive.

I know you will be the envy of all City Colleges if you add Torey Culbertson to your staff.

Sincerely,



Judy Thomsen
Former Athletic Director
Hoover High School

Kirt Dorance Kohlmeier
Head Basketball and Softball Coach
Hoover, High School
651 Glenwood Road
Glendale, California 91202

To Whom It May Concern:

Torey Culbertson exceeds the boundaries of a common coach. Very few times in my life (varsity coach for twenty years) have I had the privilege to write a letter of recommendation for such an outstanding young coach. He has been of great service to Hoover High in all facets of school life. His contributions to athletics and academics have qualified him as a true leader in every sense of the term.

The need to set high goals for pursuits in his career has been a very important focus in Torey's life. He has directed students in pursuit of academic and athletic excellence. The positive and enthusiastic approach with which Torey guides the Hoover Aquatics program represents the school with pride. His work ethic shows a great deal of heart and dedication to a positive goal structure. He has had outstanding success in all athletic endeavors and school extra-curricular activities. His program has steadily developed self-esteem and honor in all that are associated with him.

Involvement in areas outside coaching is imperative to the success of the coach. As a member of the History Department, Torey has shown great leadership qualities. He has shown the ability to get members motivated and excited about activities and projects. Also, directing student activities so professionally, many more students that normally do not participate did so enthusiastically. Torey has the gift to lead people and make them feel that they are an integral part of the entire operation. The students respect and follow Torey's lead because of his dedication to them.

Excellence in academic and athletic endeavors is of great importance to Torey. He wants to represent the school with pride and enthusiasm. The dedication to make the Hoover High School a complete institution is one of his obvious goals. His aquatics program and volunteer work throughout the Glendale community represents Hoover with distinction. The ability to handle the workload and pressures of coaching four major sports and all student activities cannot be done by the weak at heart. This type of work ethic and dedication is what we need in coaching today.

In conclusion, I feel that Torey would enhance any Institution. He would definitely be a credit and a positive example of what you are trying to produce. Torey Culbertson Makes a Difference!

Sincerely,



Kirt Dorance Kohlmeier
Teacher/ Coach



Oscar Streeter, Jr., M.D.
Associate Professor of Clinical
and Chief Physician

Department of Radiation Oncology

University of Southern California
School of Medicine

USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer
Center
Room 0316A
1441 Eastlake Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90033

Telephone: (323) 865-0384
Fax: (323) 865-0000
Cellular/VM: (626) 487-8285
E-mail: OStreeter@aol.com

February 16, 1999

Office of Human Resources
Pasadena City College
Room C204
1570 East Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, California 91106

In reply to: Applicant Torey Ray Culbertson for Physical Education Position in
Swimming and Water Polo

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Torey R. Culbertson for the position of head coach of water polo/swimming and a teaching position in health and physical education.

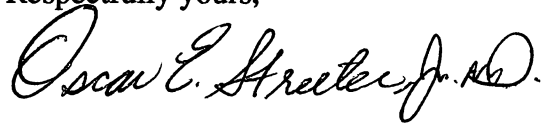
I have known Torey for more than twenty-five years, when I was a high school water polo player for his father, Walt Culbertson, at John Muir High School. Even as a child, Torey had the drive to excel, reflected in his accomplishments later in academics and athletics.

His strong roots to the Southern California community, as a teacher/coach and athletic star would be an asset in recruiting the best local and regional talent to the Pasadena City College Aquatics Program. Torey has been a champion at every level of water polo, including Pacific League MVP and a member of the 1989 NCAA Division I National Championship Water Polo Team at UC-Irvine.

But, where other players who want to coach, stop academically with their undergraduate degree, Torey Culbertson has continued with a Masters in Environmental Education while teaching history and geography at the high school level. As an academic professor, I understand how difficult this is, but he has done it with aplomb.

I look forward to attending future championship games at Pasadena City College with Coach Culbertson at the helm.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Oscar E. Streeter, Jr., M.D." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Oscar E. Streeter, Jr., M.D.



March 28, 1996

Torey Culbertson
1244 Fernside Dr.
La Canada, CA 91011

Dear Torey:

Congratulations on your acceptance to graduate study. Welcome to the University of La Verne.

I am enclosing a University Catalog and other materials to help guide you along the path to obtaining the degree. Please read them carefully to enhance your understanding of policies and processes that will affect you now and as you proceed. The sections about graduate studies near the front of the Catalog are particularly helpful, because that information outlines the University's contract with you as a student.

In addition, I have included a copy of the new Graduate Student Handbook published early in 1994. The handbook was designed to guide graduate students through a variety of policy and procedural issues. I suggest that you keep the booklet in a handy reference file.

When you have full graduate standing and have completed 21 semester hours towards your Master's Degree, you should apply for advanced standing. Students must have Advanced Standing to register for the culminating activity. It is your responsibility to request and initiate this form at the proper time in your program.

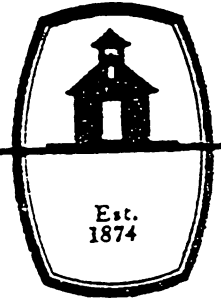
If you have general questions about the university and the logistics of your program, you may contact me at any time. I am pleased to welcome you to ULV and wish you all the best as you pursue your educational goals.

Sincerely,

Carrie Swenson, Director
Graduate Student Services

Enclosures

JOHN MUIR HIGH SCHOOL



Pasadena Unified School District

March 13, 1995

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am writing this letter of recommendation at the request of Torey Culbertson for employment with the Pasadena Unified School District.

As one of my counselees I watched Torey's development for four years as a student at John Muir, and now I see him developing into a dedicated teacher. He demonstrates his enthusiasm by preparing daily lesson plans, participating in school improvement projects and even advises an on campus club "The Trail Blazers". He is highly professional and seeks help when problems arise. He works well with our diverse population and is open to suggestions to be the best that he can be. He is very positive and can turn a negative situation around by his approach.

Torey is a loyal alumnus who believes strongly in the tradition of the blue and gold, and wants to stay to teach and carry on that tradition. Torey believes in the staying power of John Muir High School. He would be an asset to our staff.

Sincerely,


Koko Williams

Counselor, John Muir High School

March 3, 1995

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is a letter of recommendation for TOREY CULBERTSON, whom I have known this academic year as one of our long-term substitute teachers here at Muir. I am pleased to write this letter in his behalf.

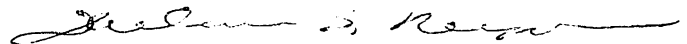
Mr. Culbertson is presently on a long-term assignment teaching English in our ELD program. Prior to his selection to fill that spot, he had taught those classes on a daily basis for at least a week and had already begun bonding to his students. Mr. Culbertson regularly went above and beyond the proverbial "call of duty" in his substitute teaching. His commitment to his students in that temporary spot influenced our recommendation to you that he be named as long-term sub for that assignment.

As such, Mr. Culbertson has taken his assignment very seriously. He has spent hours creating inspirational posters that line his classroom walls. He has also created engaging, relevant lesson plans that are helping his students learn English. Mr. Culbertson has conferred with our site bilingual coordinator, Mr. George Navarro, in building his curricular plans for these ELD students. His students report to me that he treats them well, with respect and courtesy, and that they enjoy his class. Mr. Navarro and I agree that Mr. Culbertson is off to a very commendable start as a new teacher.

We are pleased to have Mr. Culbertson on our staff. I look forward to continued professional growth on his part, since he is very enthusiastic and dedicated to being the best teacher he can be. If you have any questions about him, please feel free to contact me at the number below. I will be happy to assist you.

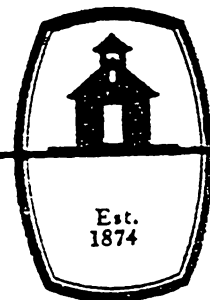
Thank you for your attention to this.

Sincerely,



Thelma T. Reyna, Ph.D.
Assistant Principal
Curriculum & Instruction

JOHN MUIR HIGH SCHOOL



Pasadena Unified School District

March 8, 1995

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am writing a recommendation at the request of Torey Culbertson for employment with the Pasadena Unified School District.

I have been at Muir for over twenty five years as a teacher, Athletic Director, and Mathematics Department Chairman. In all this time I have run across few individuals as dedicated to youth at John Muir High as Torey. He is enthusiastic and positive when communicating with students. He is well organized and takes pride in his classroom environment. He understands Spanish and feels comfortable working with our limited English speaking students. Torey also is the girls' swimming coach. He arrives at Muir at 6:15 each morning to run conditioning workouts. It is very important to the future of John Muir High and the Pasadena Unified School District to encourage and hire individuals of this caliber.

Torey graduated from UCLA in 1994. He is completing his Master's Degree in Education at the University of La Verne. We need well educated, enthusiastic men and women to enter the teaching profession. This man is one of the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred Bernthal".

Fred Bernthal

Teacher, John Muir High School