

Davis Joint Unified School District

Holmes Junior High School
1220 Drexel Drive, Davis CA 95616 530-757-5445

Jean Kennedy, Principal
Michael Dufresne, Vice Principal



April 30, 2020

Letter of Recommendation For Leigh Choate

Leigh returned to Davis three years ago and started to work at Holmes Junior High as a physical education teacher. She immediately became a very important part of the school climate. Leigh brings an amazing energy to the PE department. Leigh has excellent organization skills and is very effective managing large classes filled with energetic junior high students. She has high expectations for her students and provides an excellent classroom environment that enables all students to reach their potential.

Last year Leigh took on the responsibility of being our athletic director, and when no one would step up at another junior high to be athletic director, Leigh added that to her plate. She did an outstanding job running the athletic programs at two schools throughout the 18-19 school year. She has put in countless hours to develop and improve systems to make our athletic programs run more smoothly. The YCAL league has not had a working budget in years, and Leigh has worked hard to develop a budget and get a handle on expenses and revenues for the year. She also has worked on making sure that proper money handling guidelines are followed at all schools in the YCAL district. At Holmes, Leigh has worked on fundraising for athletics and working to improve the athletic forms students must turn in. Leigh has been great at setting timetables and advertising those to parents so paperwork is collected in a timely fashion.

This school year, 19-20, the district had a high school vice principal move to a be interim principal at an elementary school. In October, they asked Leigh to move to the high school to be an interim vice principal. Before she left for the high school, she helped find a qualified PE teacher substitute to cover her classes and she continue on as Holmes athletic director. In December, the district moved Leigh to Emerson Junior high as an interim vice principal since she did such an outstanding job at the high school. All this time that Leigh has worked as an interim vice principal she has continued to work at making sure Holmes athletics was working and excelling.

Leigh has learned so much this year as she worked as a vice principal at schools within the district. She is very good at waiting for a student to calm down before interacting and questioning a student. Leigh is calming force while working in the office and the students realize this and respond to her requests. Also, her ability to look at school systems and improve them have been a benefit to the entire school.

I highly recommend Leigh for an administrative with your district. She would be a huge asset to any school. Please let me know if you have any questions for me. I can be reached by email at jkennedy@djusd.net or by phone at 530-304-7240.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean Kennedy". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jean Kennedy
Principal
Holmes Junior High