

Mount Boucherie Secondary School

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PSIII Final Report for Jennifer Rempel

December 7, 2013

Teacher Mentor: Jackie Poirier

I had the distinct pleasure of working with Jennifer Rempel during her PSIII Internship at Mount Boucherie Secondary School in West Kelowna, British Columbia. During her time here, Jen taught Media Arts: 10 with myself and Art Foundations 12 with another mentor teacher, Jim Elwood. Before the school year had even started, Jen was already building a strong presence in the school. With no time at all, she had formed great connections with the staff with her positive attitude and friendly manner.

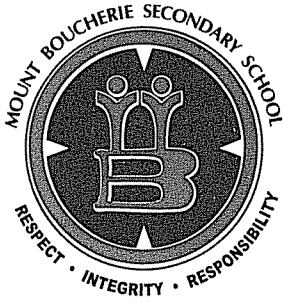
I have had the opportunity to observe Jen teach on several occasions; whether it be sitting in on full lessons, or simply stopping in to see what exciting projects students were working on. It is apparent that Jen is comfortable in a computer lab setting; which is challenging for most. Her enthusiasm for content and implementation of technological resources invigorates her students regularly, as was made visible by their consistent engagement. This was also due to the level of student choice provided with projects; student success was regularly considered by allowing students to personalize projects and demonstrate their strengths. A strong sense of student rapport was evident, likely resulting from the consistent efforts made to circulate the room and meet with each student on a regular basis.

While Jen's contributions to our Yearbook class were extra-curricular, I feel that it is worth discussing alongside her official teaching assignment. Jen's involvement in Yearbook went far beyond volunteer work, as she played a major role in planning, organizing, and carrying out the successful production of our publication to date. Her expertise in graphic design and typography, as well as, her creative ideas were a valuable addition to our Yearbook Staff this year. Through firm leadership and enthusiasm, she has formed a great rapport with every student in the class. Yearbook is a demanding class with its own unique challenges, and Jen took these head-on. She has far exceeded my expectations of commitment and initiative toward an extra-curricular venture.

Not only has Jen been present for every Yearbook class, but she initiated a small group of students to organize a three day "photo booth" to help promote the Yearbook. She was committed to help organize, advertise, and then supervise setup, duration, and take-down of the event each day. She has also started an Analog Photography club for a few students who were looking for this opportunity; in turn, helping build up the course for the following year. Jen has been involved in Grade 12 Transition Interviews, by teaming up with other teachers and community members to interview grads about their future school and career plans. She also plans to chaperone the Grad Winter Formal in the last few days of her internship.

One of the most exciting ventures Jen has taken on this semester will actually continue beyond her internship. She is part of a School District 23 committee in charge of facilitating the completion of a major community art initiative that aligns with the Canadian Student Leadership Conference being held in Kelowna in 2014. On this committee are a number of district art teachers (including myself and Jim

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Elwood), a Community Art Partnership Coordinator/Professor at UBCO, and one of the Directors of Instruction of the school board. This is a great project for Jen to be involved in. It will help her form connections and lasting relationships within the district while participating in creating a community legacy.

There is no doubt in my mind that Jen will be a great addition to any school staff. Her enthusiasm, eagerness to learn, and ability to collaborate and self-reflect illustrate her capacity to be a life-long learner and strong role model for her students. She shows genuine care for each of her students, and even for those she doesn't teach. Jen carries herself as a professional and I see her as a colleague, as I have probably learned as much from her as she has from me. I feel lucky to have been part of her growth and can only hope the best for her in her future as a teacher.

Sincerely,

Jackie Poirier

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