

March 2, 2023

Making the Holocaust Relevant through Inquiry and Classroom Application
HolocaustEdInitiative@psu.edu

To whom it may concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Melissa Kreider to the Making the Holocaust Relevant through Inquiry and Classroom Application residency program.

I am the librarian at Landisville Middle School and I have had the opportunity to co-teach with Ms. Kreider for the last four years. Ms. Kreider is a creative and thoughtful teacher. She has enthusiastically embraced the inquiry research process and works to apply a lot of the process to lessons outside of library and research instruction.

Ms. Kreider is an excellent candidate for the Institute. She has actively been working to improve the instruction surrounding the Holocaust at Landisville Middle School. Ms. Kreider wrote a grant to include Jewish narratives as an extension to the traditional Anne Frank instruction. The goal of the new unit was to improve empathy and understanding through own voice narratives.

Ms. Kreider is an outstanding educator. Her classroom is marked by organization, creativity and high expectations. Ms. Kreider is skilled at planning out units and putting together all of the pieces that make a unit come together. As a co-teacher, I always appreciate the clear schedules for students, exit tickets and benchmarks that Ms. Kreider provides to students at the beginning of each unit. In terms of creativity, Ms. Kreider's instruction is constantly growing and evolving. It is a pleasure to see her reflect and grow each unit. Finally, Ms. Kreider sets high expectations for students and as a result we are fortunate to see amazing work produced by students. In Ms. Kreider's class it is evident that all students are expected to thoughtfully complete assignments and meet deadlines.

I am confident that Ms. Kreider will be an asset to the institute and will grow and implement engaging new inquiry for Holocaust instruction.

Feel free to contact me at (215) 588-3382 or erhodesi@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Erika Rhodside
Landisville Middle School Libraria

