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Friday, January 31, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

It is a privilege to write a recommendation letter on behalf of Mr. Richard de Meij. Outside my family, Mr. de Meij has influenced me the most, and has inspired me to become a teacher. He always pushes his students to achieve beyond the expected. During the time that I have known Mr. de Meij, I came to realize that he is always positive, and enthusiastic, and that he has skills that many other teachers lack. Skills of willing to help any students in any way, making sure that students have access to him, and being there and being a guide for his students. I am amazed at how committed he is, and how willing he always is to help students, under most circumstances, even when he himself is very busy. That, in my view, is what makes him special as a teacher, sets him apart from other teachers. Little did he know, I would want to become a teacher just like him.

Throughout my whole education, I did not want to learn Spanish, nor wanted to speak it, because it appeared to be too complex. However, that completely changed ever since I had Mr. de Meij as my language teacher. Mr. de Meij, makes his class fun, important and an entertaining place to be. We sing in Spanish, dance and get comfortable with the Hispanic culture. Mr. de Meij is an expert in technology, and has his own website: www.celebratelanguage.com. The website has many resources for learning Spanish, and many other languages, which is a great thing to have for students to learn the language.

I had Mr. de Meij my Junior year for Spanish-1, and currently this year for Spanish-2. I have learned so much Spanish in such a short amount of time because of Mr. de Meij's techniques, methodologies, and his approach to teaching. I feel comfortable communicating with my Spanish-speaking friends, with the Spanish I have learned thus far. I have friends from other schools who have taken Spanish-3 and Spanish-4, however, they were not as good as I am, and that was very surprising! One thing that makes Mr. de Meij very unique is that he is not teaching Spanish just for students to pass and graduate! But rather, he teaches it for students to actually use the language in the outside world. As a language teacher, this is very important! In the school year of 2018-2019, Mr. de Meij, was chosen as the CT COLT Connecticut Language Teacher of the Year. I firmly believe that he not only deserved it, but that he has earned it as well.

Mr. de Meij has made a big impact on the Hartford Public High School Community. He speaks fluently in 8 Languages. He is an expert in his field, and can get a student somewhere at the very top of his performance. He has helped many foreign students, and always encourages them to learn more than 2 languages, because it is a birthright! Mr. de Meij has helped make Hartford Public High School a unique and diverse place to be.

In closing, Mr. de Meij, has been a role model to me and to many other students as well. He is committed to his students and has taught me great lessons in life that I will use in my daily life. I have accomplished many good things in Spanish with him in such a short amount of time. He inspired me to become a teacher, and I have decided that I want to become a teacher like him.

Sincerely,

Law Eh Too
Student at Hartford Public High School
Class of 2020