

Letter of Recommendation for: Ms. Kali A. Rasmussen

Letter of Recommendation by: Mr. Paul Konichek

Date: 03/13/2013

It is with great humility and honor that an exceptional individual like Ms. Kali A. Rasmussen request that I write a letter of recommendation for her. Ms. Rasmussen was an outstanding student in one of my seven Physics classes last school year. Kali was a large part of the glue that made her class a success. Kali cared about the ones that struggled with Physics so was a willing lab partner and tutor for them. She was a good listener, encouraged them and raised their confidence in themselves as only Kali could do. Kali's caring makes her a great fit for her chosen career, the medical field. Yes, Kali cares!

Kali cares for others is apparent in her co-curricular activities. She is very active in the youth group of her church and worked in several fundraisers so that she could take part in the mission trip to Peru where she worked with the orphans and people in poverty. Her volleyball team helped raise an unheard of amount of money and awareness for breast cancer last year. As a spectator I was amazed by the excitement that evening. A standing room only crowd, the blaze of over 1400 fluorescent pink shirts sold by her team, with all the activities for the evening focused on breast cancer awareness. Yes, Kali cares!

Kali cares drives her to take on the toughest challenges with a smile on her face. This is evident in her being the track team captain in one of the largest track teams in the state. She cares deeply about other people, their problems, and their pain as is evident in her involvement in Key Club, Community Partners, and the Global Awareness Club. Her love of learning and honing her listening skills is evident in her personal interests of reading, music, and movies. When I Googled Kali A. Rasmussen, besides all her athletic achievements, her Pinterest showed her love to learn new things and the maturity of her personal caring interest. Yes, Kali cares!

Kali is intrigued by the ways medicine can be used to improve life as is evident in both her job shadowing in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Aspirus Women's Clinic, ministry job shadow, and being currently enrolled in the certified nursing assistant course at Midstate Technical College. Yes, Kali cares!

Ms. Rasmussen has prepared for the medical field by honing her interpersonal and communication skills in completing AP U.S. Government and Politics, AP Psychology, AP Literature and Composition, and AP Language and Composition; all college courses with a grade point that rounds to a perfect 4.0. Yes, Kali cares!

NASA hired me to represent all the U.S. high-school teachers, on a small ‘Blue Ribbon Panel’ of professional educators, to write the criteria used to choose the top two educators in the country to be trained to be Astronauts. I am using this gift that NASA saw in me to state that Kali’s caring is her exceptional quality. Kali touches lives. Kali makes an impact on the people around her. Yes, Kali cares!

Kali sets an overall tone of competence, optimism, integrity and inspiration, by example. Ms. Rasmussen models a disciplined, synergistic lifestyle that provides the energy and endurance to handle the physical and emotional challenges of leadership in the medical field today. Yes, Kali cares!

For all the above reasons and so very many more, it is my honor, in my 39th year of teaching, to bestow upon Ms. Kali A. Rasmussen my highest recommendation.

Yes, I care because, Kali cares!

Sincerely,

Mr. Paul Konichek

NASA Blue Ribbon Panel (2003)

NASA Teacher Liaison (Flight 2)

Summited Mt. Aconcagua (22,837 feet) (2005)

Portage County Business Partners Golden Apple Award Winner (2006-2007)

SPASH PHYSICS, AP PHYSICS, MATHEMATICS, ASTRONOMY (1996-present)

Monthly Portage County Gazette Science Writer (2004-present)

Mt. Fuji, Japan (summer of 2012)

Mt. Pico, Azores; Coma Pedrosa, Andorra (summer of 2013)