



# SADDEBACK VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

25631 Peter A. Hartman Way · Mission Viejo, California 92691 · (949) 586-1234 · www.svUSD.org

## Board of Education

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April 26, 2013

Clint Harwick, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

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### Re: Katie Andersen

To Whom It May Concern,

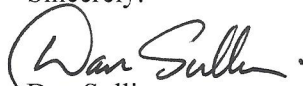
I am writing on behalf of Katie Andersen, a graduate intern in counseling who completed her College Counseling Program at UCLA Extension during the Fall semester of this year. I worked directly with Katie at Mission Viejo High School as she completed her 65 hour requirement for supervised fieldwork for her "Practicum in College Counseling." As a former soccer player at Duke University and 15 years of international software industry marketing experience, Katie brought some unique qualifications to her internship which emphasized counseling future college athletes in regard to college application, NCAA eligibility requirements, and athletic scholarship opportunities. This was a perfect fit for Mission Viejo High School with its high profile athletic program that produces between 20-30 scholarship athletes each year plus many additional collegiate athletes.

I can honestly say that working with Katie in this unique role has been a pleasure. She has a tireless work ethic demonstrated by her far exceeding the basic requirements for her internship. While she was required to only perform 35 of her 65 internship hours on site, Katie has assisted on our site in excess of 200 hours. After completing her Fall semester requirements, she has continued to serve on a voluntary basis to help our students and broaden her experience as a collegiate counselor. She always brings a friendly and positive professional demeanor each day to work regardless of the many challenges that are so common at a large comprehensive high school site. I have enjoyed Katie's cheerful attitude, her sense of humor and her self-driven approach to the tasks before her.

Katie has taken her training from UCLA and her personal athletic background and built a huge base of knowledge in the intricacies of college athletic admissions. Working closely with our counselors, administration, and athletic department, she has designed a sustainable athletic counseling framework that MVHS will be able to use for many years into the future. She has created and presented numerous seminars to students, parents, and coaches about the basics of collegiate athletic eligibility and college selection. She has created numerous documents and tools to guide the high school student through the eligibility, admissions, and scholarship process. She has even developed a valuable website for our school that allows access to many customized documents and a wide array of resources.

Katie has counseled many individual students on their NCAA status. She has worked with individual families and she has worked in tandem with our high school counseling staff to address some very complex eligibility issues. She has developed college entrance plans with students and families and she has contacted the NCAA Eligibility Center, and many 4-year and community colleges on behalf of our school to receive direct clarification on specific and unique issues. Katie Andersen has been a tremendous asset for MVHS this past year. She has the skills and a wealth of information to educate and counsel students effectively. Combining this with her highly professional demeanor makes her a great candidate for serving the needs of students. It is without reservation that I highly recommend Katie Andersen for any position that involves the counseling students entering the arena of collegiate athletics – whether it be for individual student or family counseling, group presentations, or employment in a collegiate counseling position.

Sincerely,



Dan Sullivan

Assistant Principal

### MISSION VIEJO HIGH SCHOOL

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National Blue Ribbon School  
National Exemplary School  
International Baccalaureate School

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