



## KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BASSWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*The community of Keller ISD will educate our students to achieve their highest standards of performance by engaging them in exceptional opportunities*

---

3100 Clay Mountain Trail

Fort Worth, TX 76137

Phone: 817-744-6500

[www.kellerisd.net](http://www.kellerisd.net)

Tony Johnson, Principal  
Stephanie Kramer, Assistant Principal

To Whom It May Concern,

Chris Espinosa provided an engaging week of writing to my fourth-grade students at Basswood Elementary in Keller Independent School District. His professionalism, community-mindedness, and student inclusiveness qualify him as a Master Teaching Artist.

Mr. Espinosa professionally conducted himself throughout the entire process. He contacted Basswood Elementary with the instructional proposal. Once we received approval, Mr. Espinosa delivered student permission slips and the lesson design. He scheduled a face to face meeting with me, the principal, and our instructional coach to review the lesson design and preview the classroom to be used for instruction. During the week-long writing experience, Mr. Espinosa provided all the materials needed for the writing experience. He communicated with me daily to debrief and make any necessary adjustments. After the writing experience concluded, Mr. Espinosa returned the classroom to its original setting and met with me to reflect on the instruction. He also conducted follow up emails. Mr. Espinosa acted in accordance with the codes of conduct at Basswood Elementary.

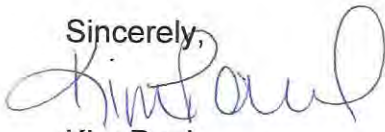
Mr. Espinosa is a community-minded Teaching Artist. He began building relationships with the staff and students of Basswood from the first day. There was a "buzz" around the school as more teachers and students heard about Mr. Espinosa. His exuberant personality hooked the fourth-grade students. They eagerly attended the writing sessions each day and were sad when the week was over. Mr. Espinosa integrates theater into his writing instruction, which increases the engagement level of the students. I gleaned ideas for collaborating with our theater teacher to encourage reluctant writers. Mr. Espinosa's artistry created connections throughout Basswood Elementary.

Mr. Espinosa's learning environment allows all students to feel included. Basswood Elementary is a culturally and academically diverse Title 1 school. One of the things I admire most about Mr. Espinosa is the fact that he wanted to establish relationships with all students, not knowing any academic or behavioral identifications. I have one student that has high

anxiety and academic difficulties. The writing experience with Mr. Espinosa activated something in this student that he had not previously exhibited. It was clear that he felt comfortable working with Mr. Espinosa. I saw his self-esteem rise throughout the week. The student contributed creative ideas to his group and the class. The remainder of the students celebrated his successes. On the last day, the students performed their expository essay. When it was his group's turn, he was anxious at first but was able to work through the feelings and perform for his peers. Part of Mr. Espinosa's artistry is his ability to establish relationships with students, meet them where they are, and take them to new levels.

My students continue to reference the week we spent with Mr. Espinosa. The connections we made with him and the engaging artistry we experienced have left a lasting impression. I highly recommend Chris Espinosa to your program.

Sincerely,



Kim Paul

Basswood Elementary

4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

[Kimberley.paul@kellerisd.net](mailto:Kimberley.paul@kellerisd.net)