

Viera High School

6103 Stadium Parkway

Viera, FL 32940



September 28, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Christopher Ortiz for the Brevard County Teacher of the Year award. Mr. Ortiz has taught in Brevard Public Schools and Viera High School for the past three years. While this is a short tenure, he has had a widespread impact with students and faculty on our campus, causing him to be selected as our Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Ortiz demonstrates a superior ability to foster excellence in education and contributes to the improvement of student learning on a daily basis on our campus.

To experience Mr. Ortiz is to experience passion, care, enthusiasm, and a love for educating students. Entering into Mr. Ortiz's classroom is an adventure, as students experience his dynamic personality and his commitment to educating ALL students through a variety of engaging, challenging, and innovating instructional strategies. Often I hear students talking in the cafeteria or throughout the campus about how much they love Mr. Ortiz's class, but also how much they know Mr. Ortiz cares about them because of the relationship he cultivates with the students on our campus.

Mr. Ortiz uses innovative instructional materials, methods, and tools to engage all student and facilitate instruction. He also demonstrates a commitment to improving his and other's instructional practices. He actively participates in professional development and is a leader on our campus. He is an active member of a data team that collaborates to improve student learning outcomes. Mr. Ortiz is also a member of the Mental Health Committee that creates content for our Friday Hawk Time that provides mental health support and strategies to support students with Social Emotional Learning. He has presented professional development on this to the faculty.

Mr. Ortiz collaboratively teaches a monthly Professional Learning Team for new teachers with a colleague. They provide new teachers with strategies to support and guide them through their first year. Mr. Ortiz actively mentors these new staff and provides the support and encouragement to enhance their instructional practices. Often, when I speak with Mr. Ortiz, he is reflecting on what he could do better or how he can do more to impact his students. Mr. Ortiz is an educator truly committed to continuous improvement and student achievement.

In closing I give Mr. Ortiz my highest recommendation to be named this year's Teacher of the Year Award.

Sincerely,

Sarah Robinson

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Sarah Robinson, Principal
Mark W. Mullins, Ed.D., Superintendent
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