



January 12th, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Hillsboro School District has had the distinct pleasure of having Robert Kaplinsky present to our secondary mathematics teachers in September 2015 as a kickoff to the school year. Hillsboro School District is the fourth largest school district in Oregon, located in the Portland Metro area. We have approximately 20,000 students educated in 35 schools. One of the focuses for the secondary schools in the 2015 – 2016 school year is Depth of Knowledge. Based on that focus, we asked Mr. Kaplinsky to present both Depth of Knowledge and Project Based Learning. Using resources from his website, in addition to other resources, he was able to help Hillsboro School District secondary mathematics teachers start the school year energized and excited.

Building administrators were delighted by the energy that Mr. Kaplinsky infused into their mathematics departments. Mr. Kaplinsky's presentation style of not only talking about a topic, but also giving teachers an opportunity to experience and grapple with a topic from both a student and teacher perspective, allows teachers to walk away feeling not only informed about a topic but also having the experience they need to confidently integrate the topic into their classroom. Building administrators have noticed a change in the type of questions teachers are asking their students as a direct result of what they learned in Mr. Kaplinsky's presentation.

Mr. Kaplinsky's presentation has allowed secondary mathematics teachers in the Hillsboro School District to have a common language when discussing Depth of Knowledge. In addition, his presentation has provided teachers practical examples of ways to integrate Depth of Knowledge into their classroom assessments. Many teachers have remarked that Mr. Kaplinsky's presentation was one of the best in their teaching career and have requested that he return. One teacher remarked that he has sat in many presentations about Depth of Knowledge but did not fully understand it until Mr. Kaplinsky explained it using the Distinguishing Between Depth of Knowledge Levels in Mathematics.

Hillsboro School District highly recommends Mr. Robert Kaplinsky as a presenter. The tools and resources available on his websites are exceptional and have been well received at all levels in the Hillsboro School District. In addition, Mr. Kaplinsky's presentation style is exceptional; he is able to break down the complex work of Depth of Knowledge and Project Based Learning into something practical and tangible that teachers can take back and use the next day in their classrooms.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (503) 844-1500.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TR", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Travis Reiman
Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services
Hillsboro School District

Engage and challenge all learners to ensure academic excellence

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