



SANTA BARBARA  
**PARTNERS IN EDUCATION**

Michelle Magnusson, Director

June 4, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Gryphon Phoenix has been volunteering his time to work with Isla Vista Elementary students during P.E. since October 2012. This was coordinated by Partners in Education.

Isla Vista schedules P.E. so that an entire grade level participates at one designated time, and class sizes range from 45-76 students. Gryphon has worked with grades 1-6. Since October, he has volunteered more than 50 hours at Isla Vista. For a complete record of these hours, please see the following page.

Gryphon is very enthusiastic about pursuing a career in physical education. He is excited to learn about the job and all that it entails, including behavior management, grouping of students, encouraging student motivation, sportsmanship, and teaching about personal fitness.

With his prior knowledge and previous coaching experience, Gryphon has been able to help lead lessons given little preparation time. He is flexible and always willing to take charge of whatever task is given to him. He assists with student management, ensuring that students play by the established rules to maintain safety and control.

Gryphon went above and beyond when he took the initiative to plan and lead a basketball clinic for the students alongside players from the Santa Barbara City College women's basketball team. This event was a fun and valuable experience for the students.

Gryphon works very well with the students and encourages them to participate, while also motivating them to enjoy themselves, which is what P.E. is all about! Overall, Gryphon has been a pleasure to work with because he is always excited to be volunteering, and has an enthusiastic and professional attitude with both the staff and students.

Should you wish to discuss Gryphon's qualifications further, I can be reached by phone at 805-964-4710 x4417 or via email [mmagnusson@sbceo.org](mailto:mmagnusson@sbceo.org).

Sincerely,

Michelle Magnusson  
Executive Director, Partners in Education

Krista Lucci  
P.E. Instructor, IV Elementary

Elise Zolczynski  
Volunteer Manager, Partners in Education

Ashley Switzer  
P.E. Instructor, IV Elementary

Partners in Education is administered by the Santa Barbara County Education Office.  
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