



October 2019

To Whom It May Concern;

I am taking the opportunity to write this letter as my recommendation and support of John Miller. I have worked with John for three years at Korea International School and have had the opportunity to be in his classroom, observe him with students, as well as witness him take on increasing leadership roles in our school community. Through all five of his years at KIS, John has cultivated both his passion for writing and teaching as well as his passion for the outdoors in positive ways that have enhanced student learning at our school.

From his first days at KIS, John has been a strong member of our English department. He has been an important and active member of departmental teams, as well as transdisciplinary teams that have worked to promote alignment both within and across departments in the high school. This includes work with our Social Studies department to horizontally align writing and analysis skills and expectations. In addition, John has explored new, interesting and alternative ways for students to express ideas about literature through film and journalism. He developed a strong digital journalism program for our students and also facilitated professional development sessions for colleagues on creating and assessing effective video essays. A highlight of his leadership in this area was when his students were recognized at the Shanghai Student Film Festival for their work in editing and short features, among other areas.

As a teacher, John understands how to be instructive in order to push students to extend learning. He appreciates that students will differ in how they are able to express what they know and can do. John reflects this in his approach to assessment; he holds each and every one of his students to a high standard, yet he is flexible enough to work with students on this process, finding ways that help them leverage their individual strengths towards successfully meeting common standards. John adds life to his lessons by providing additional anecdotes and colourful stories about authors and texts that help his students make real-world connections to their own experiences, thereby enhancing understanding and engagement.

Throughout his time at KIS, John has also been an important builder in our Experiential Education (EE) team. In his first year at KIS, he joined the Research and Development team for one of our grade level trips and has consistently lent his expertise to the planning and implementation of several trips thereafter. He has served as a grade level trip leader and this year, John transitioned to an important role as a school-wide leader in our EE program. Through this, John has taken on the responsibility and leadership of the logistics and planning

for nine different out-of-school, overnight trips, serving hundreds of students from grades 4 through 12. His high regard for safety and enriching outdoor education experiences has allowed our program to grow and evolve. As an important part of his leadership, John has guided colleagues on safety and course training as well as activity planning in order to ensure that these trips run smoothly for all teachers and students. His genuine care for the well being of students and colleagues and his enthusiasm to learn alongside them in these out-of-classroom experiences is something that has been a hallmark of his time at our school.

John will be missed in the KIS community. I am confident that he will continue to be a strong contributor to any academic or applied learning program. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this reference in further detail, please do not hesitate to contact me at the telephone number or email address listed below.

Very Sincerely,



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