

October 2019

To Whom It May Concern;

Mallory Verick has been a valued member of our KIS English department and school community for three years. In her tenth year in education, she is an experienced and confident professional in her teaching role, as shown through her interactions with our students, their families, school administration and her colleagues. As the High School Principal at Korea International School, I have known her professionally for three years and have had the opportunity to observe her in the classroom, as well as work closely with her on our Department Leadership team.

At KIS we value the leadership of our Department Heads to help make decisions regarding the broader issues about school policies around curriculum and assessment. Mallory has guided her English team towards consistency and alignment through the implementation of UbD and standards-based practices. As a key member of both our freshman and senior course teams, Mallory has been a strong leader in promoting purposeful transitions for students between all of their English classes from grade nine through grade twelve. The results of this have been the development of extensive scope and sequence documentation as well as meaningful protocols to guide the English department's professional learning time together, all towards promoting consistency and alignment.

A large part of Mallory's leadership profile has also been as a mentor. During her time at our school, she has been a highly effective guide to many teachers, both new to KIS and those new to the English department. In this role, she has made the time to meet with these teachers regularly throughout the school year to orient them on department and school best practices, to plan shared lessons and activities, and to calibrate assessment standards. With her guidance and support, our ninth grade team in particular has become one of the most cohesive and well organized in our building. She has worked through this team to create meaningful and authentic assessments that clearly connect to the Common Core Standards taught in our English classes and to use rich student data to guide discussions and decisions. Moreover, her work with this team has led them to connect regularly with our tenth grade teachers, as well as our middle school eighth grade teachers, to better align standards and support for students.

As a classroom teacher, Mallory exudes a confidence in her content as well as in her pedagogy that is admirable and goes a long way to making every lesson a terrific balance between challenge and engagement. Mallory holds her students to a high standard, yet dives into texts with them showing an enthusiasm and energy that draws them in. Aside from her leadership in

our grade nine English classes, Mallory has also been very successful teaching our AP Literature and AP Research courses, developing and enhancing the level of rigor and alignment of both. As a teacher, Mallory is respectful and kind, communicates her expectations clearly and always demonstrates a genuine interest in the learning and development of her students.

Though we are sad to see Mallory leave our KIS community, I am confident that she will be a strong contributor to any English department she joins. If I had the opportunity to hire and work with Mallory Verick again I would be thrilled to do so.

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,

Aimmie Kellar

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