



September 1, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure and honor that I write this letter of support for Nathalie Trudel. I was very fortunate to host her as a student teacher in my third grade classroom in the spring of 2015 at Asia Pacific International School in Seoul, Korea. She came to school every day to observe and participate, as part of her teaching program. She connected well with students and I feel very lucky that we were able to have her in our classroom.

As a student teacher at APIS, Nathalie gained experience with multiple curricular programs as we collaborated to teach and reach our students. For example, she learned and taught literacy using the workshop model as outlined by Lucy Calkins. She learned how to confer one-on-one with students to support their development as readers and writers. In math, APIS uses the Everyday Math curriculum. In this area, Nathalie taught and participated in math strategy games that reinforce concepts that we taught them previously. Science and social studies are taught using a more investigative and project-based approach, which Nathalie took on with ease. She taught the students about sound during our science time, using hands-on investigations. During social studies, she and I collaborated to teach the students about how technology changes over time.

Outside of curricular requirements, I was most impressed with Nathalie's ability to connect with students. She brought in fun, educational and interactive objects that the students would pour over, engrossed in curiosity. She was very aware of the students' emotional needs, always willing to talk through and advise them when they needed it. I found this most helpful during unstructured times, like recess, when our students often struggled the most. She has an extensive repertoire of songs and rhymes that the students loved and continued to sing and recite, even after her time with us was finished. Her attention to their emotional needs made our students happier and more engaged throughout the day.

Nathalie consistently showed the utmost professionalism and respect. With colleagues, she was always willing to share her opinion in an informative and supportive way, without judgment all while maintaining confidentiality. She accepted and readily welcomed suggestions to improve her teaching practice. With parents, she immediately impressed them with her warmth, calm demeanor and extensive knowledge of child development and how it related to their child. She also participated in student-led conferences, which allowed her to deepen relationships with both students and their parents. She attended faculty meetings and even social events held outside school hours.

I strongly endorse Nathalie Trudel. She has the intellect, passion, communication skills, and professionalism required to be an outstanding educator. I confidently recommend her for any early childhood or elementary level position at your school. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 010-4035-2747 or via email at jilliwanuk@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Jillian Iwanuk



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