



ST. JOHNSBURY ACADEMY JEJU

1159 Gueok-ri Daejeong-eup Seogwipo-si Jeju-do Korea

제주특별자치도 서귀포시 대정읍 구억리 1159

Tel. 064.801.1204

sjajeju.kr

February 25th, 2019

Open Letter of Recommendation for Ms. Katherine Welch

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with the utmost enthusiasm that I write this letter to recommend Ms. Katie Welch to your organization. I have known Katie professionally since shortly after my arrival at St. Johnsbury Academy Jeju in the fall of 2017. Since that time, Ms. Welch has worked diligently as an exemplary MS/HS English teacher and she has served our “start-up school” with great aplomb in several capacities beyond the classroom. As a successful founding faculty member at SJA Jeju, Katie has demonstrated a very positive disposition amid much uncertainty, a healthy dose of patience with our growing pains, exemplary flexibility, and a good sense of humor.

Katie proved herself to be a very adept English teacher as she has taught 6th, 7th, 9th and 10th grade English courses during her tenure here. Katie’s previous experience teaching ESL students in Seoul not only served her well with our primarily-Korean student body, but also made her a great resource for fellow faculty members new to Korea and our context here. She has also done an excellent job of teaching within our semester-block schedule, and she also has proven herself capable of handling the differentiation required in teaching English to non-tracked groups of students (from very weak to native English speakers in the same classroom). Moreover, I am delighted that Katie volunteered to join our Student Support Team (SST) as she has been a great resource for our team to better guide struggling students towards academic success.

Not only has Katie performed well as a full-time English teacher, she also helps to positively contribute to our growing school community in many other ways. Over her tenure at SJA Jeju, Katie worked with students to create our school’s first French club while also organizing and publishing our student-led HS newspaper – “The Hilltopper News” – and our first MS/HS yearbook. This year the newspaper and our publications club have continued to expand under Katie’s leadership, and she has also volunteered her time to work with ESL students on their writing in the library after school. Moreover, Katie helps support our residence life program by organizing weekend activities for boarding students, supervising evening study, and getting residence life students more involved in service-learning opportunities via our Red Cross Youth program.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any further questions about Katie, my enthusiastic recommendation contained herein, or her positive two-year tenure at SJA Jeju.

Yours in learning,

Mr. Daniel Kriebel

High School Principal – St. Johnsbury Academy Jeju