



COLEGIO AMERICANO
DE PUERTO VALLARTA, A.C.

November 11th, 2008

Re.: Reference letter for Mr. Paul J. Brocklehurst

To Whom It May Concern:

I've worked with Paul Brocklehurst for the last two years at the American School of Puerto Vallarta. Aside from teaching, I'm the head of the Science and Math Department and administrator at our school. Paul is one of the finest teachers (and persons) I have come across in my career.

Paul teaches both math and physics at our school. All of the students love him and have given him good reports on his evaluations. One of them said: "I wouldn't understand any math if it weren't for Mr. Brock". I think the secret to his success lies in his intrinsic motivation to help kids and in his ability to show them math or physics from a real-world perspective. You can always find Paul helping kids out at lunch, break and after school. He doesn't charge them for it, he just motivates them to do their best. He founded a chapter of Mu Alpha Theta here for students interested in math. From that group we have set up a peer tutoring system that doubles as community service for those kids. It has been very successful.

Another area in our school where Paul has made a significant difference has been in our standardized testing program. We use the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) system. Together with one of our other teachers, Paul designed and implemented our Map Driven Instruction program, where we group students by their scores and teach directly to their weaknesses. It has made an impact on their results and their motivation to do their best on the test. MDI has allowed us to get a clear picture of our students and their academic levels. It is important to note that Paul did this on his own, without being asked or required to do so. He's the type of person that is always striving for excellence, both in his students and himself.

On a personal note, I've ascertained that Paul is very open-minded on many levels. He does not come into a situation with pre-conceived notions. He listens actively and has thoughtful feedback on the matter at hand. Besides, he's a great cook and has a fun sense of humor!

Paul Brocklehurst would be an excellent addition to any institution for his motivation, insight and creativity. I recommend him highly.

If you have any questions for me, please contact me through my email or any of the telephone numbers below.

Sincerely,


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