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Seoul Foreign School

OPEN LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION BRENT VAN STAALDUINEN

14 November 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Brent van Staalduinen has been a valuable member of the High School English Department at Seoul Foreign School for the last two years. It has been my pleasure to be his direct supervisor as his high school principal. Brent has been the consummate professional educator as he has taught English I, the International Baccalaureate English A1 Standard Level and the IB English A2 courses while at SFS. He has made meaningful contributions to this school both inside and outside the classroom.

In the classroom, Brent demonstrates a strong command of his subject matter. His classes are engaging and challenging. He is an insightful educator who utilizes a wide range of instructional strategies to create the conditions for quality interaction between his students and the literature. Brent utilizes a variety of authentic assessment approaches in his teaching. He is committed to improving his student's skills and strengthening their development as independent learners. He builds strong rapport with his students and appropriately integrates technology to assist the students in their learning.

Brent has been an active member of the English department who has collaborated with his fellow colleagues in the areas of curriculum, assessment and technology integration. Brent has also demonstrated a strong commitment to his professional development while at SFS. He has undertaken IB English A1 training, enthusiastically participated in our interactive whiteboard training and has attended the Asia-Pacific writing conference. He is committed to the continuous improvement of his teaching practice.

Outside the classroom, Brent has given his full participation as a high school faculty member. In addition to his service in the curriculum and instructional areas of the school, he has also been the advisor for several student led clubs and he has served as the assistant boys soccer coach. Additionally, Brent has been a meaningful leader in our student discipleship program. He meets with his discipleship students to discuss issues of life and faith and supports each student's faith and personal development. These are just a few examples of his commitment to service to the school and the students.

Personally, Brent is a man of high integrity who lives his highly principled life with a sense of purpose. He is a warm and witty gentleman who gets along well with others, is communicative and truly desires what is best and right for his school and others. His desire to help and his strong sense of personal and professional responsibility are a model for others.

I value Brent and recommend him without reservation for any teaching position for which he is qualified. I am confident that his addition to any faculty would be a positive contribution to the school's academic, social, and professional community.

Sincerely,

Kevin Baker
High School Principal

