

19 February 2004

International School of Ulaanbaatar
PO Box 49/564
Ulaanbaatar
Mongolia


To whom it may concern,

I am writing in behalf of Mr. Jim Miller. Jim joined our staff in August 2003 as an art teacher with two years previous teaching experience and without any training in International Baccalaureate practice. Working in a small school such as ours, as the art specialist Jim was expected to teach to the IB PYP, MYP and Diploma curricula, and the recently (2004) introduced IGCSE curriculum. This was a huge expectation and initially Jim struggled to manage a successful teaching programme and has had to work hard to become familiar with the assessment and teaching practices of these programmes. With respect to his work in the IB Diploma programme Jim has actively sought professional development and traveled to Beijing International School (Singapore) where he spent his Spring break time with Richard Todd the diploma programme visual arts teacher and IB examiner.

Jim has good rapport and has established good relations with the students in his classes. It was my initial impression that Jim did not set high enough expectations of his students but I am pleased to report that as he has become more familiar with the demands of the visual art programmes at ISU there has been a noticeable increase in student work production.

Jim has adapted well to the demands of everyday life in Mongolia and has contributed to the social and extra-curricula life of the school. He is chairman of the performing and visual arts committee and is organizing an art display at the upcoming Spring concert; he has put together for permanent display a student group weaving project of the schools name, an art work of fifty two separate panels. He is an enthusiastic musician and sportsman, and has a very good sense of humour always appreciated at staff meetings.

Jim has the personal attributes of a good teacher. With continued effort and training he will surely improve as an art teacher and I wish him success in future employment.



Gary Post
IB Coordinator
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