



American Academy Casablanca

International School

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To Whom It May Concern,

It is a pleasure for me to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Ms. Laura Keeney. Ms. Keeney has been working with me at the American Academy of Casablanca for the past two years. I can speak about Laura as both a co worker, and a parent with a daughter in her class.

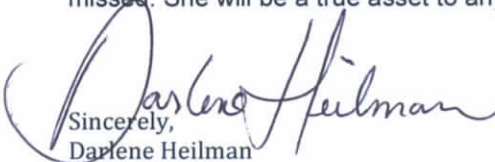
Laura is truly gifted in the classroom. Her obvious passion for teaching is felt by the entire school community. She has a strong background and talent in Art and is able to convey the content that she has mastered to the students in a way that encourages them to make connections to the real world and their own lives. She advocated for an AP art program at our school this year demonstrating her commitment to improving the educational opportunities for our students. As the AP coordinator here at AAC I had many opportunities to observe Laura's work in that class. She was highly organized and dedicated to both the course and her student. Although there was only one student in the class his success was her top priority.

As an English teacher I was thrilled by the initiative that Laura took to work with me on a number of collaborative projects. The projects we worked on became some of the students most memorable moment of their school year. The paintings the students did to show the symbolism in the novel they were studying hang proudly in the cafeteria. Laura is creative in the classroom and uses a variety of teaching methods with an excellent understanding of pedagogical techniques.

Laura is willing to try anything to motivate her students. The students have responded extremely well to her teaching and disciplinary style. She has an exceptionally effective classroom management style that I believe is directly related to the interest that students take in her lessons. Laura recognized a need for better communication regarding student discipline matters. She took the initiative to start a communication system for our school in this regard. She is admired and respected by the students and presents herself in a professional manner at all times. I have always found her to be very optimistic and open minded. She gets along very well with co workers.

Now I will speak about Laura from a parent's point of view. I have a daughter in the first grade who is in love with art class. When she comes home after having had art class with Ms. Keeney she will go straight to our art supplies and show me what she has learned. My daughter will act as the teacher and I then become the student. On many occasions we have sat in front of the computer looking at the artwork of a famous painter that was mentioned in class. In my experience as a teacher I know that when a child comes home and talks about what they have done in class that day with such excitement and enthusiasm they are engaged and learning. My daughter is inspired by Ms. Keeney's art class.

Laura is not only committed to students during the school day, she is very active in extracurricular as well. Laura was involved in the character education program, as a coach and ran a running club on Saturdays. I must say that our school will suffer a great loss in the coming year as she moves on in her career. She has made a positive impact on the entire school community and she will be greatly missed. She will be a true asset to any school and they will be fortunate to have her on their staff.


Sincerely,
Darlene Heilman

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