



May 4, 2016

RE: Marjorie LaFrance

To whom it may concern:

It is a pleasure to write this letter of reference for Marj LaFrance. I have been one of her administrators at the Calgary Girls' School for the past four years and I have always enjoyed the nature of our work together.

Marj is committed to establishing pedagogical relationships with both staff and students. Her genuine respect for people contributes to a classroom environment of mutual respect and the energy and enthusiasm she brings to our learning community is to be commended. While interacting with her students, Marj actively, and with a great deal of care and sensitivity, listens to her students' responses, concerns and questions. This sensitivity empowers students and assists them in developing a sense of agency that provides them the necessary attributes to take ownership for their learning. Marj's approachable disposition assists her in creating an atmosphere that is conducive to a lively exchange of ideas and enables her to effectively collaborate with colleagues and students alike. In addition, Marj regularly exhibits an understanding of the importance of engaging students in inquiry that builds upon their prior knowledge and helps to develop new understanding.

Marj has a strong understanding of grade six and French as a second language school curriculum. Her ability to bring the curriculum to life is indicative of her desire to delve deeply into the Program of Studies in a way that brings interconnectedness and a deeper understanding of each discipline into play. She utilizes diagnostic, formative and summative assessment effectively, using evidence of learning to guide her planning for future lessons. Marj ensures that her students are actively involved in every aspect of a lesson by having them ask probing questions, evaluate themselves and their peers and find new ways to come up with answers.

Collaboration amongst staff members is an expectation at the Calgary Girls' School. Marj is a valuable member of her grade group team as they engage in ongoing short and long term planning. Marj's contributions beyond the classroom demonstrate her commitment to school community. She took on a leadership role with both our school assemblies and the art projects associated with our Women's Eve Gala and she was willing to provide support for school talent shows and drama productions. Marj has had experience coaching track & field, basketball, volleyball and badminton and has taken the initiative to run an extra curricular math club for students at the school.

It is with confidence that I offer these insights into Marj as a teacher and colleague. I highly recommend her for any position she might pursue. If any further assistance is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at 403-220-0745 or at oliver.fisher@calgarygirlsschool.com.

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