



AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF ABU DHABI

PO BOX 42114 ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES • TEL 9712 681-5115 • FAX 9712 681-6006 • Web <http://acs.sch.ae>

October 16th, 2011

To Whom it May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of reference for Ms. Lisa Casarrubias. Lisa has been an integral member of the middle school team at the American Community School of Abu Dhabi (ACS) for the past 3 years and I believe that her enthusiasm and passion for the Spanish language would make her an excellent candidate to join your school community.

One of Lisa's greatest assets is her positive personality and the rapport that she is able to establish with the students in her classroom. She has the ability to create a comfortable atmosphere in her classroom which encourages risk taking amongst her students on a daily basis. This trusting relationship helps each student to experiment with the Spanish language and ensures that they develop an excellent understanding. Her classroom is extremely well-managed and she is able to effectively use her formative assessment results to make instructional decisions. Lisa's reputation amongst both parents and students is extremely high and she is always interested in gaining an understanding of how she can improve as a teacher. Over the past three years, she has annually surveyed her students to get feedback about her personal practice from their perspective. Although the results have always been extremely positive, Lisa has worked to continually find ways to improve her performance and interactions in the classroom setting.

Due to Lisa's success in her classes at ACS, she has been encouraged to take on a leadership role within our school for the past two years. In this role, she has effectively mentored our middle school world language teachers as they have collaboratively worked to improve their classroom skills and pedagogy. Lisa's leadership within the world language department has had a profound effect on the department and has helped to extend her success beyond her own classroom. Lisa has a great vision for a successful language program and her organization and leadership allow her to work extremely well with her colleagues to identify strategies that will improve student learning in our world language program.

Although Lisa has experienced great success at ACS, she is not one to rest on her laurels. Lisa has a great work ethic and has completed her masters degree over the course of the past couple years which has helped her to stay current with the latest trends in second language instruction. In addition, Lisa has been an avid participant in our school's professional development program as both a participant and presenter. Her ability to integrate technology in her class is excellent and Lisa has been utilized by many faculty members as a great resource for Moodle support. Her willingness to continue her own professional growth, and her ability to provide support for others is exemplary and will help her to become an extremely valuable member of your school's learning community.

I have had the delight of witnessing Lisa's dedication to the field of education while working with her students. Her passion for the Spanish is obvious and Lisa is able to inspire this same passion amongst her pupils. She is an excellent role model, and I would highly recommend her for any position for which she is qualified. Please feel free to contact me either by phone (+971 50 7216056) or email mark-hardeman@acs.sch.ae if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Hardeman
Middle School Principal

