

**PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL**

Av. João Obino, 110 - Porto Alegre - RS - Brasil - 90470-150 - Phone/Fax: +55 51 3334.5866
www.panamerican.com.br - e-mail: school@panamerican.com.br

January 26, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Ms. Tracy Andersen. As the PYP Coordinator at Pan American School, I have worked closely with Tracy in her role as a Grade 5 teacher. Tracy has demonstrated an exceptional level of commitment to our school's mission, which is to strive for excellence, inspiring global and caring learners to build their future.

Tracy is passionate about education and committed to teaching the whole child. She is aware of her students' unique emotional, physical, social and academic needs, and differentiates her instruction accordingly. She places great importance on fostering caring relationships with her students by learning about their interests, talents, and background experiences, and encouraging open dialogue and reflection. She capitalizes on her students' strengths to build their self efficacy and motivation. There is a feeling of mutual interest, warmth, trust and respect in her classroom.

One of Tracy's most distinguishing characteristics as a teacher leader at PAS has been her commitment to cultivate a climate of respect, appreciation, empathy and responsibility in our school community. This has been evidenced in her interactions with students, faculty and parents, whether that be in the classroom, out on the playground, at a staff meeting or school event, or in the community. Last school year, she was instrumental in promoting student-initiated action when a group of her students expressed an interest in organizing a "Dance For Kindness" event in Porto Alegre. She facilitated and guided them through the entire planning process, and the event was an absolute success, with over 300 people from the local community participating to celebrate kindness. Under Tracy's leadership, her students felt empowered to be positive change makers in their community.

As a Grade 5 teacher at an IB PYP authorized school, Tracy has developed a solid working knowledge of the PYP curriculum framework, including the PYP Exhibition. She has become increasingly skilled at preparing student-centered learning experiences that are inquiry based in nature and promote-solving, critical thinking, and international mindedness. Tracy understands the importance of formative and summative assessment in the learning process. She uses a variety of formative assessment techniques to monitor student understanding and plan for future instruction. Additionally, she is skilled at designing summative assessment tasks that are performance based in nature and allow students to demonstrate their understanding in a variety of ways.

Tracy has been a tremendous contributor to our school, and her presence and expertise will certainly be missed. I give Tracy my most sincere and positive recommendation. With her, you are assured a solid addition to your team.

Sincerely,

Cassie Koscianski
PYP Coordinator/Grade 1 Teacher
Pan American School
ckoscianski@panamerican.com.br