

Unsolicited Letter of Reference

May 2013

Euan Frew

Euan Frew has been teaching grade 7 Physical Education (P.E.)/Health in the Middle School here at The American School of The Hague (ASH) for two years. Prior to joining the Middle School, he taught Social Studies and Physical Education in our High School. (We were lucky enough to entice him to work with us for a few years!) A talented international educator, an outstanding coach of many sports, and a positive contributor to his team and to the whole school climate, Euan is a valued member of our faculty.

Euan has been a great addition to our Middle School program. He puts a lot of time and effort into getting to know his students. It is clear they are at the heart of every decision he makes. He strikes the perfect balance in his classes of fun and high expectations. Students know they are meant to fully participate and engage in lessons from start to finish; no small feat in a Physical Education class. He integrates technology well, using videos, websites, etc. He differentiates lessons, giving students options as to how they will complete things or what their role will be. I particularly appreciate his work on vertical and horizontal articulation of the curriculum. He is the P.E. Department Coordinator this year, leading several teachers with a wide variety of needs that deal with all students PS-12. He is doing a very good job in this role, helping them to communicate and collaborate better.

Euan is also an outstanding coach. He has coached the Under 12 girls' volleyball and the Middle School Track and Field teams here at ASH but has a long history of coaching at his previous schools in China and Japan. After 30 years in education, I have never worked with a better U12 girls' coach. The man has the patience of a saint; teaching the same skill over and over again, always with a smile. His players and their parents always go out of their way to tell me how much they enjoy working with him. Euan's main priorities are to teach these girls to be a part of a team, to value good sportsmanship above winning, and to learn the fundamentals. I have watched him coach over a dozen games and I always come away equally pleased when we win and when we don't.

During Euan's first year here at ASH the High School Principal was ill and I ended up working with Euan on the appraisal process. He earned high ratings and welcomed praise and constructive criticism with his usual candor and good grace. Euan has talent and experience in both High School and Middle School, which should make him a very desirable candidate for social studies and PE/Health positions. Add on his coaching abilities and his unfailingly positive outlook and he should be a very strong candidate for any openings in these areas. Should you require further information about this talented educator, please feel free to contact me, being the easiest way at [mrussman@isl.edu.lv](mailto:mruszman@isl.edu.lv).

Mary Russman

Middle School Principal, The American School of The Hague through June 2013

Director, International School of Latvia as of July 2013