



May, 2005.

## CANADIAN ACADEMY

### Recommendation for Nathan Schelble

Nathan came to Canadian Academy (CA), Kobe, Japan in August of 2003 as the high school guidance counsellor from an international school in Thailand. He is firmly committed to a counselling career in international schools. CA is an established school with a strong reputation and so Nathan had large shoes to fill as the pressure of advising students for university placement was on. Also when Nathan came to CA, he had no previous IB experience and from the start, he set out to learn the nuts and bolts of the IB in order to accurately advise students of all nationalities of their subject choices, so as to prepare them for university courses around the world. Owing to Nathan's strong work ethic and will to succeed, he learnt quickly and is doing a solid job in counselling students for university placement.

I have worked closely with Nathan on a daily basis regarding counseling and scheduling issues. I have found him to be very easy to work with and he has a wicked sense of humour. Sometimes, when things are grim, this is the best remedy to lighten a situation. I have also never seen Nathan get angry or be in a bad mood and indeed he is a raiser of others' spirits.

His personality makes him perfect as a counsellor who will listen to students and be there for them. He is very upbeat and optimistic in his approach and students feel very comfortable sharing issues they may have with him. His office is always busy and he is there for the students, whenever they need him.

Nathan is also quite the character and will dress up for school plays to play a cameo role. He even gets involved with the elementary school appearing as "Zero the Hero", roller blading through the corridors, much to the glee of the younger students. He denies it was ever him!

Nathan does not have a big ego and whilst this is a wonderful attribute for the most part, I feel that one area in which Nathan can grow is leadership. The counselling department has some strong personalities in it and I think Nathan needs to be more assertive in having his voice heard. When working with a different group of personalities, this is not an issue.

I wish Nathan well in his future. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with him and have learned a lot from him also. He is a great team player and a wonderful person to have on any faculty.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Oli Tocher Hancock'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Oli Tocher-Hancock

K- 12 Director of Student Services and International Baccalaureate Co-ordinator