

October 29, 2019

To Whom it May Concern:

I have had the pleasure of knowing Andrew Kempe as an educator and a professional over the past seven years. Andrew is a wonderful history teacher. As the principal of the New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science (AMS), I hired Andrew in 2012-13 as a first year history teacher. His interest in working with historically underserved populations in the Bronx on issues of social justice as well as his commitment to coaching students to think like historians was what made him stand out during our interview process.

At AMS, Andrew taught 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade, and was regarded by his colleagues and school leaders for his dedication to the success of his students. He taught 9th and 10th grade global history, a Human Rights elective, as well as founding our network's Advanced Placement US History course, developed a curriculum designed to bridge the gaps between the students' middle school history understandings and the rigorous Advanced Placement standards set by the College Board. Over his four years at AMS, Andrew was asked to co-teach and co-plan with a special education teacher in order to help all students meet standards. He was also a teacher leader with strengths in lesson planning and unit creation. Throughout his tenure at AMS, Andrew worked hard to help shape curricula which maintain and expand upon our school culture of rigor, college readiness, and international perspective. His talents are not limited to the teaching of history, he is also a teacher of writing, having taught and formulated writing tasks in line with the Literacy Design Collaborative and Common Core Writing Standards. These skills and others led me to recommend him to the position of Lead Social Studies Teacher in 2015.

As much as Andrew has been a strong contributor to the professional teaching culture at AMS, what I can best attest to is Andrew's value and participation as a leader within our school community. Over the four years that Andrew was a member of our staff, he strived to build consensus amongst our teaching staff, the school administration and the New Visions Charter Management Organization. He maintained a productive and valuable relationship with me, and has shown his ability to do so with a variety of personalities. In the three years Andrew had been a member of the social studies team, his leadership ability has shown itself to be present and valuable especially through leadership transitions and staff turnover in the department.

Andrew has consistently shown passion towards his profession, dedicating himself to serving students from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives (an essential asset in our diverse school environment), and to building the values of global citizenship into every aspect of his work. This is emphasis on global education is what brought him to his current role teaching social studies to Dominican students at the Carol Morgan School in Santo Domingo.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or for further information.

Sincerely,



Julia Chun

Global Director of Education  
Avenues, The World School