



The Mont'Kiara International School

Office of Mont Kiara Int'l School
Assistant Principal
Mr. Jim French
Telephone: +603-2093-8604
Email: j.french@mkis.edu.my

22 Jalan Kiara, Mont Kiara
50480 KL, Malaysia
www.mkis.edu.my

May 2014

When I think of Art DeFilippo the first words that come to mind are enthusiastic, caring, and extremely supportive. It was my pleasure to work with Art from August 2009 till July 2011. During that time he was the elementary school principal at Seoul International School. I was the 4th grade team leader so we had quite a number of opportunities to collaborate on many school events and community projects.

When I first met Art I was initially impressed with his enthusiasm, communication skills and professional demeanor. During the two years we worked together those initial impressions were proven true. I have never worked with a more upbeat person who always sees the best in any situation. In the first few months after Art arrived I witnessed a total turn around in the school environment. He created an open, positive place where creative ideas were welcomed, discussed, and implemented.

Art is reliable, dedicated, and eternally upbeat. His ability to calm angry or frustrated parents and teachers is unparalleled. It is because of his excellence in this area that I repeatedly asked him to sit in on meetings with parents and teachers in my grade level. Art has the rare ability of being able to come into a hostile environment and immediately defuse the tension, and work out the problem.

Art multitasks effectively and is able to handle a high-volume workload. I cannot think of a time when a request or question was not answered within 24 hours. As a result of Arts organization and multitasking abilities the elementary school ran extremely smoothly and efficiently. I also appreciated Arts willingness to help others in this area. I witnessed him having weekly training sessions for teachers struggling in this area.

Organized and diligent, Art quickly learned technology systems and software that were unfamiliar to him. Art attended optional professional-development workshops offered through the school. After attending these workshops Art took the lead and implemented what he learned. We were all impressed with Arts ability to implement technology in a meaningful way. Arts lead by example style inspired all of us to embrace challenges that were outside of our comfort zone.

Art DeFilippo is a hardworking, enthusiastic, supportive principal. He has my highest recommendation. I genuinely hope that I will have the pleasure of working with him in the future. If you would like additional information I would be happy to furnish more details.

Sincerely,

Jim French
Elementary School Assistant Principal
j.french@mkis.edu.my