



ROCKRIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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To the staff of Pacific Beach Middle School,

Thank you. When we visited you on October 5th, we had no idea what we would get out of the exchange. We knew we were about to meet teachers who design a much-lauded IB Middle Years Programme. We knew we would meet teachers who care about furthering their practice. And we knew we'd meet a welcoming coordinator. We didn't know we'd feel so connected to you and your work.

During our visit the teachers at PBMS showed us just how deep a staff can take the foundations of the IB. Visually, we could see that you don't "hide" things from students. Your goals are the students' goals and there is no confusion about what students are learning during any particular unit. The Art/History Remix shows a flexibility that comes with knowing curriculum deeply. The "who dunnit" mystery going on shows the high level of engagement with your students. Your math teachers gave us lots to think about in terms of making the curriculum and the process of math relevant to kids.

It is also obvious, from our short time with you, how committed you are to reflective practice. The reflection cycle is something we will take back home with us and try to make our own. You showed us how the reflective conversation can take us to a deeper place with student learning and curriculum design. This process models collaborative learning for your students – something that students need to see because it models resilience, perseverance, and dedication: three necessary parts of deep learning.

We saw teachers who care sincerely for one another and for their students. What a rich, caring learning environment you have created for your students; thank you for sharing it with us.

With sincere thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brooke Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a dark ink on a white background.

Brooke Moore
Rockridge Secondary MYP Coordinator
West Vancouver, BC, Canada