



October 20, 2019

To Whom it May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I write a letter of recommendation on behalf of Sanje Ratnavale. On October 10 and 11, Sanje visited the Dawson campus to conduct a number of workshops with parents, administrators, faculty leaders, and teachers. As a result of their visit, our school community made meaningful leaps towards modern learning initiatives. The multitude of conversations that Sanje facilitated with different constituents cultivated an understanding of how education needs to undertake major reform to meet the needs of our student's future.

Alexander Dawson is an independent preschool through eighth-grade school in Las Vegas, Nevada. Dawson teachers are connected by the belief that we need to learn from others to keep growing. One of our Core Belief is "*We are a true learning community. Dawson's faculty and administrators model lifelong learning by investing in educational best practices, advances in technology and relevant world development.*" The work that Sanje Ratnavale engaged in during his visit to Dawson and the platform provided by OESIS to learn from educators around the globe enhances Dawson's ability to live this Core Belief.

As Dawson approaches its 20<sup>th</sup> year, the organization is asking questions that will guide the next 20 years. Current conversations focus on the mindsets needed to deliver a modern education that both meets the challenges and takes advantage of the realities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The two-day professional development experience with Sanje Ratnavale provided Dawson with a starting point for the exploration of competency-based education (CBE) and clarity in the design of strategic blue-print. Sanje scaffolded the learning experience by allowing teachers to provide feedback on specific competencies during a debrief of an interactive experience. The aha moment created by this activity was an impactful outcome as teachers synthesized a concrete example of how competencies can be measured and developed. During the keynote portion of the presentation, Sanje used images, analogies, and relevant examples to deepen the learners' understanding of competency-based education. As a result of Sanje's work on our campus, Dawson is now positioned to create a three-year plan for CBE and utilize the OESIS Pathways and

professional development resources. His visit allowed us to cement the vision that will guide our future work and institutional growth.

If possible, I would recommend that all schools begin their journey towards CBE with a visit from the president and founder of the OESIS organization. I believe OESIS will serve as a network that allows independent schools to join forces and become innovative leaders in the modern educational landscape.

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roxanne Stansbury".

Roxanne Stansbury  
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