



Distinguished Committee:

Date: March 5, 2015

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Mr. Nathan Wubbena, music teacher, Coal Ridge High School. Mr. Wubbena is a talented teacher who revived our struggling program. Because of his passion for students and music, our programs are flourishing.

Mr. Wubbena, in only his fourth year of teaching, has experienced tremendous growth. Some of that growth is attributed to his tireless pursuit of collaboration between other schools in our district. He takes great pride in bringing students of all ages, shapes, and sizes together to perform in public. Many of the younger students select Coal Ridge High School because of their experiences with him.

Students at Coal Ridge High School are excited to sing. How often do we say, "Behind every great program is a great teacher/coach?" Our students admire their mentor and work tirelessly to improve their performances. Students will work for a teacher that they care about, because they know that the teacher cares about them. Well, students work crazy hard for Mr. Wubbena because his passion for their success shines through in everything that they do.

Mr. Wubbena promotes music throughout the state, and to all age groups. His is the District 8 Governor for the All State Middle School Board. He regularly attends conferences for organizations like the American Choral Directors Association and Colorado Music Educators Association. His active involvement in this kind of staff development is done on his own time, and often times, at his own expense.

In addition to all of the demands of his dual middle and high school position, he writes his own arrangements for his ensembles. He created a YouTube video of a Mark Schultz piece that involved Mr. Wubbena's own arrangements. Currently, he is organizing a middle school festival choir for District 8. Last year, over 500 singers participated.

Mr. Wubbena is more than just a teacher, he is also a terrific performer. Mr. Wubbena performs with the Defiance Theatre in Glenwood Springs. He is a remarkable talent and our students are truly blessed to have his passion inside and outside the classroom.

Lastly, above all of the terrific characteristics that Mr. Wubbena possesses, I would be remiss if I didn't speak to his kindness towards all. He is always willing to lend a hand, go the extra mile, or simply lift the spirits of those around him. I give my highest recommendation to this candidate, and congratulate the school that successfully employs him. He will be a tremendous loss to our school and community!

If you'd like more information regarding this exceptional candidate, please feel welcome to call.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RE", written over a horizontal line.

Rick Elertson  
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