

1-12-18

To whom it may concern:

I was asked by Mr. Richard Schneider if I would write a letter of recommendation for him as he pursues an endeavor that would advance his career and also get him closer to his family and I believe both are very good reasons for his wanting to pursue this opportunity.

I have been on the Blue Earth Area School Board since 2006, and approx 4 years ago we had an open position for High School Principal. That is how I met Mr. Schneider. I was on the committee that conducted interviews for that position, and I have never been sorry that he was chosen to lead our High School. There was never a doubt during the interviews that he would conduct himself in the best interest of the School District and the betterment of all students was his goal. I knew from the very beginning that Rich was a very solid man and he has proven to be very steady and consistent while serving us very well.

Rich has a way about him when working with staff members that makes them all come together to find solutions and put the best practices to work. This is affirmed by his role as our coordinator of the District Leadership Team. The staff has found him to be open to new ideas while still holding them accountable for the achievement of students in the classrooms. Another observation that has been made since Rich came to us is that our Superintendent and three Principals all work together much better than they ever have. I attribute that to Rich's Team player perspective and knowing that collaboration and cooperation between them makes us all levels of our school better.

Rich has been working towards his Administrative goal for a period of time and I was very happy for him when he got that done. I honestly don't know when he finds time to get everything done but he always does. He is the first one to the high school in the morning and then at night you will find him mingling at sporting events or taking in a concert.

I have gotten to know Rich and I will tell you that he knows what it takes to run a School District. He is a strong family man and he believes in all the right things. His virtues carry into his profession and I know he has always drawn on his past experiences and wisdom to come to the best solution possible. He believes that all students have opportunities to make good lives for themselves and he does his best to help them all. Whether it's hiring a new Counselor with a strong background in college readiness or working cooperatively with a neighboring school district so our kids can go to a welding academy, Rich will find a way for all to succeed.

Jesse Haugh

Blue Earth Area School Board Chairman

