



Empowering Life-Long Learners

# PENNCREST School District

SAEGERTOWN JR.-SR. HIGH SCHOOL  
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November 9, 2009

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Patrick Baldwin. I am the Director of Instrumental Music for the Saegertown Area Schools in the PENNCREST School District located in Crawford County, Pennsylvania. I am writing to you today to recommend Mr. Christopher Lyons for the music teacher position available in your school district.

I have known Mr. Lyons since I started teaching at Saegertown in 2001. He was a sophomore percussionist that showed great promise and potential in his percussion abilities. In addition, he showed great character by offering his help and support to his new band director from my first day of employment. Over the three years that I was able to work with him as a student, Mr. Lyons grew to become an amazing high school percussionist and exhibited his talents at various music festivals including PMEA District 2 and Region II Band.

Mr. Lyons kept in contact with me throughout his undergraduate experience at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. It was exciting to watch his professional growth as he began to work with Gateway High School and as he began to compose percussion scores for Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Lyons also composed the percussion score for our "Latin Sensations" marching band show in 2006 and did an amazing job for us. His skills impressed me then, and continue to impress me now.

Mr. Lyons is currently assisting the Saegertown High School Panther Marching Band this fall 2009 season. He works closely with the students on visual and marching basics and with the percussionists refining basic skills and teaching advanced techniques. It has been an absolute blessing and honor to work with Mr. Lyons this season. His expertise in marching and visual techniques has brought my students to a level of performance we have not seen since I began in 2001. Our band has had its most successful season to date, and a good part of that can be contributed to the addition of Mr. Lyons to our staff.

I have also had the opportunity to watch Mr. Lyons teach as a substitute at Saegertown. His teaching skills and love of students allows him to come into a new classroom, command attention and respect, and provide a quality educational experience as a substitute teacher. Mr. Lyons has also substituted recently for my classes and the students asked that he always be the substitute when I am out of school. That speaks volumes about his character and professionalism.

Mr. Lyons will make an excellent addition to your music faculty. I am honored to be able to call him a colleague and friend. It is a privilege to be able to send my highest recommendation to you for Mr. Lyons. I wish him the best as he pursues a teaching position in your school district.

Sincerely,

Patrick T. Baldwin  
Director of Instrumental Music  
Saegertown Area Schools  
PENNCREST School District