

Richard J. Kane
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Dear Director of Human Resources,

I am writing this letter in support of Mr. Christopher Lyons. I have personally known Mr. Lyons for over ten years. He is a fine educator with a wealth of pedagogical knowledge. He would be an extreme asset to your school district.

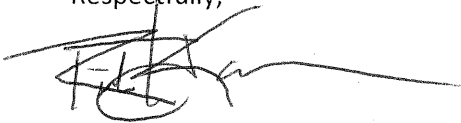
Mr. Lyons rescued the music department of Juniata Valley High School. This program had endured several different director changes in an abnormally short amount of time. The program was beleaguered with issues of quality and musical integrity as well as organization. Without fail, Mr. Lyons took command and led the organization to several new highs.

His Indoor percussion ensemble qualified for finals in the East Coast Championships every season that they participated. Several of his students qualified for the Tournament of Bands All-Star band which performs exclusively on Thanksgiving Day and is by invitation only. Additionally, he instilled a sense of pride, dignity, and professionalism onto his students which had been previously absent.

Finally, his sense of humor is matched by his determination to strive for perfection. At no time does he allow one to overshadow the other. Instead, he's learned to marry the two concepts which has made him an incredible role model for his students as well as many others that interact with him at various festival.

Although it would pain me to lose such a tremendous colleague and valuable resource from our county, I know that he would continue his good work wherever he went. He will provide students with a stable, solid, friendly, and nurturing educational environment. It is my distinct pleasure to offer him this STRONG recommendation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Kane', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard J. Kane
Chair, Department of Fine Arts
Director of Bands
Mount Union Area High School