



Ramona J. Coats
Assistant Administrator
GEAR UP/OCPS

May 7, 2002

To Whom It May Concern;

I am writing in regard to giving reference for Peter Messiah, Project Director of Safe and Drug Free Schools and Character Education, of the Oklahoma City Public Schools. I count it a privilege to submit a letter of reference for Peter in that over the past few years I have observed his performance as a career educator to be of the highest quality. I would like to share with you a few strengths that I have observed while working closely with him on various educational projects such as Parent Academies, and our most recent Anti-Violence Symposium – Ending the Silence on Violence. Peter demonstrates excellence in professionalism by being a highly skilled communicator. He possesses the ability to not only communicate expectations to members of committees, but also portrays the ability to effectively communicate in front of groups as large as 500 to 1,000 participants. He is a motivator, a mover, and a shaker for the cause of bringing forth and implementing best practices in public education. He is a strong advocate for producing positive change in education. I am very proud of this young man's efforts. He has demonstrated educational leadership by being an assistant principal at the middle school level, an in-school suspension program director, and a 6th grade language arts teacher. He has taken every opportunity to participate in professional growth opportunities by attending such trainings as Violence Reduction and Anger Management Training, Trainer of Trainers for OCPS, and many other value added trainings that add to his professional qualifications.

Peter is a well-rounded individual. He is very busy as a career educator; however, he also gives many hours to such organizations as the NAACP, Urban League, Oklahoma City Municipal Metropolitan Alliance of Black School Educators, and is a member of the Church District Board for Evangelism.

Peter demonstrates exceptional leadership skills; motivates peers; fosters teamwork and collaboration, and portrays professional qualities and judgment that are above reproach. He would be a valuable asset to any educational setting.

Thank you for any time or consideration that you may give in behalf of Peter Messiah in the future.

Respectfully,

Ramona J. Coats

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