

South Cobb High School Orchestras

Joshua Thompson
Director of Orchestras

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Dear Mr. Dillon:

I am sending this letter of recommendation on behalf of Ed LaVine. I have known Ed for three years, due to his roles as both an active Osborne High School Band Booster, and also as a supply teacher in Cobb County. Given my firsthand knowledge of Ed's character, I strongly believe that he will prove to be a fine Communications Specialist for the Cobb County School District.

I met Ed initially due to his close ties to daughter, Nichole, who was a member of the Osborne High School band. I maintained close ties to the band department and the booster club, as I was, until this year, the orchestra director at Osborne. Ed possessed a sincere interest in the future of the program and was very active in that booster organization. His kind nature allowed him to befriend many members of that organization and prove to be an invaluable asset to the organization itself.

For the past few weeks, Ed has been employed as a supply teacher specifically assigned to the role of the orchestra director at Kennesaw Mountain High School. It is in this capacity that I was able to observe firsthand Ed's fine skills at organization, public relations, and communications, all of which will serve him well in the position of Communications Specialist. The job that Ed did filling in for the orchestra director during the difficult time that she was out was nothing short of remarkable.

Ed LaVine stepped into the busiest week of the year for a music teacher – the week of GMEA District XII Festival. Furthermore, Kennesaw Mountain High School was to be the host. I personally entered the weekend with a little bit of trepidation. As the organizing chair of the event, I was apprehensive about trying to assume the role of site coordinator in addition to my duties as chair. Not only did Ed fill in admirably as a supply teacher that week, but he went above and far beyond the call of duty by assuming the role of site coordinator that the orchestra director at Kennesaw Mountain was originally slated to hold.

The trepidation I felt going into the weekend was quickly dampened by all of Ed's hard work and preparation. He took the position that he was going to be the orchestra director in her absence. In addition to working two consecutive 16 hour days (one of which was a Saturday which was not in his supply teacher contract), he was a calming influence for all of the directors, students, and parents who were involved with this year's festival. He was the pivotal figure that insured that the festival activities ran smoothly. I cannot truly express to you how important a role Ed played in the overall success of this year's orchestra festival.

In closing, Ed LaVine is a man of great character and tireless work ethic who will be a valuable asset to any future employer. It would be wise for the Cobb County School District to employ such a fine individual.

Sincerely,

Joshua Thompson