

HALIFAX COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Elizabeth Senseney, Student Support Specialist

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To Whom it May Concern:

I highly recommend Shawn A. Barksdale as a guest speaker at your facility. Shawn recently spoke to some of our ninth and tenth grade students at Halifax County High School about making good decisions, writing to release negative emotions, and bullying. He also shared how victims of bullying can later turn to violence as a way to cope. He shared part of his experience with bad choices and the consequences that followed.

Mr. Barksdale was very passionate as he shared, and the students were engaged in his presentation. I have received excellent feedback from our teachers and students that participated, and Shawn was able to make a personal connection with a number of our students who reached out to him for advice and assistance after the presentation.

Not only does Mr. Barksdale do a wonderful job on the day of the presentation, but he also works to continue the connections he creates. On the day of our program, he gave the students his personal cell phone number and invited them to contact him whenever they wanted to. He also directed them to the Facebook group for Boots on the Ground to continue building rapport. Lastly, he shared the information for his podcast that he regularly records so that our students can have his message reinforced on a regular basis.

Mr. Barksdale is professional, thorough, and compassionate as a guest speaker. I do not think you will be disappointed if you invite him to speak at your facility.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Senseney

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