

Reagan Monarch

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Mr. Paul Savage and Search Committee:

Please accept this correspondence as a letter of recommendation on behalf of Derrick Hopkins for a teaching position in your esteemed district.

As a colleague of Derrick Hopkins at Willsboro Central School District, I have had the pleasure of working with him for the past four years. Through his work as an elementary teacher and theater director, I have come to know him as a professional of immense dedication and integrity. Derrick is gifted in student-centered instruction and cooperative learning whether it be in a traditional classroom setting or on the stage. Derrick approaches the many hats he wears as an educator with grace, fortitude and determination. He presents the New York State Standards curriculum in elementary and arts education in a manner that inspires students to become the best versions of themselves and life-long learners.

Establishing strong, long lasting relationships with students of all ages comes naturally to Derrick. These connections create the foundation for success in his theater program, classroom and in the greater school community. I have collaborated with Derrick on numerous shows in and out of school including: *Shrek Jr.*, *Wizard of Oz* and *Hello Dolly!*. These collaborations allowed me to witness his many gifts in leading and educating large groups of students and adults--he brings fiery creativity and fun to the classroom and the stage. Derrick is the heart and soul of Willsboro Central School.

As a dedicated father, foster parent and founder of the Keeseville Hometown Heroes and Artistry Community Theater, Derrick Hopkins has proven to be a pillar of love and strength in our broader community. He will be a wonderful asset to your district and I can attest to his upstanding character as a colleague, community leader, parent and dear friend. Willsboro Central will be at a loss without the light and commitment he brings to our school team. It is without hesitation that I recommend Derrick for a position at AuSable Valley. Please contact me anytime to further discuss his qualifications, character and accomplishments.

Regards,

Reagan Monarch (Earle), Art Teacher, WCC