



October, 2013

City of Independence, Ohio

"THE HEART OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY"

6800 BRECKSVILLE ROAD

INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

(216) 524-4131

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I offer this letter of recommendation on behalf of the All School Assembly Program, also known as ASAP. I was fortunate to learn of ASAP through our community partnership, 25 & Alive, made up of the city government, schools, churches, businesses, youth and parents of Independence. We learned of ASAP through our liaison to the church community, Pastor Donna Barrett, and with the support of ASAP, we have been able to bring the following assembly speakers to our High School, Middle School, and community:

- Bob Lenz spoke on Value, Courage and Respect (2005) and An Unshakable Self Image (2009). Bob is a highly sought after assembly speaker and was rated among the best by our students, faculty and community.
- Dan Smith, Pastor of Momentum Church spoke to our youth about the "inner conscience" and kicked the assembly off with a "mini concert" from the very popular Momentum Band (2007).
- In 2010, ASAP helped bring the Rachel's Challenge's program to the students and parents of our community. This valuable program is designed to help administrators, parents, and students create a safer and more productive place to learn and achieve.
- Most recently (2013) ASAP brought Ray McElroy, a former pro football player who emphasizes to students that they were born "choosers" not "losers." His presentation centered around Choices and Consequences.

Each speaker facilitated presentations to our high school and middle school students and faculty, followed by an evening program for students, parents and the greater community. The evening programs include a faith component and are sponsored by area churches, which is one of our favorite things about the format of ASAP assemblies. Working together, we are able to co-sponsor speakers who present secular assemblies during the day as required by the school district (sponsored by the city and schools), yet are able to incorporate a faith-based message during the evening event because that component is sponsored solely by the churches. We work closely with ASAP to ensure that each speaker respects the school district's policy that there can be no religious content in any of the daytime messages which take place in the public school auditoriums.

Many times assembly speakers come and go and their presentations are unremarkable. This has not been the case with the high quality speakers that ASAP has helped us to welcome to Independence. We are very grateful for the role that ASAP has played in helping make these events possible.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Angela T. Zeleznik
Clerk of Court