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1.14.20

Brian Gordon-Director
Three Rivers Education for Employment System
1215 Houbolt Road
Joliet, IL 60432

Dear Mr. Gordon;

My name is Will Fuller and I am the Managing Principal at Acacia. I am writing this letter in support of Mark Smith's industrial technology program at Reed-Custer High School 249 Comet Drive, Braidwood, IL 60408. I have known about Mark and his program for one year.

Our primary trade organization, The Architectural Woodworking Institute (AWI), surveys its membership annually regarding the greatest current concerns of the industry. For several years now, the issue of finding, hiring and retaining a qualified workforce has ranked 1st or 2nd. Evidence of this is found regularly when attending national industry events. There are always training sessions on how to engage and influence this challenge in positive ways. I personally agree with the significance of this and support any organization trying to add value and resources to an industry I have loved for over 40-years.

There are very few places in the US that formally train young people in the skills our industry so desperately needs. Those that do and establish vibrant working relationships with the industry almost always place their students in significant positions with some of the country's best companies before they even graduate. You need look no further than one of the most prestigious universities serving our industry than Pittsburg State University which has a 100% placement history.

If our firm can be of further assistance to your program, instructors or students please don't hesitate to ask. We want to support a quality program like yours in any way possible and insure it gets all the resources and opportunities possible.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. Fuller', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Will Fuller
Principal
Acacia