



January 3, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Martin Reynolds. I have known Dr. Reynolds since 2010 as my colleague here at Southeast and have observed his work in his classes and ensembles as well as his observations of our student teacher candidates.

In each instance, Dr. Reynolds has proven himself to be among 'the best of the best' of instrumental music educators by consistently raising the level of expectations for his students and giving them the tools to attain those higher goals. In the time he has been at Southeast, our Wind Symphony has performed at the Missouri Music Educators Association Convention (which was accomplished by submitting a recording of the ensemble and being selected by a panel of experts), gone on a tour of schools in southern Missouri/northern Arkansas and brought in several guest artists including Andy Wen (Spring 2012) and Josh Bledsoe (Spring 2013). In addition, he has elevated the performance level of this premiere ensemble as evidenced by numerous enthusiastic standing ovations at their concerts on our campus. Our marching band, the Golden Eagles, have also been positively affected by his leadership. They have improved their ensemble sound, marching prowess as well as their morale throughout the semester. In addition to their fine work at home games, they have also appeared at the Charleston Marching Competition and the Jackson Marching Band Festival.

Dr. Reynolds has also been charged with teaching a number of music education courses at Southeast, which he has infused with real-world concepts and strategic initiatives. Because of his extensive experience in the public school instrumental music classroom, he can 'tell it like it is' to our students and they benefit tremendously as a result. Marty has a personality which inspires his students to work diligently to attain their goals. His rehearsal skills are exemplary and his knowledge of the fundamentals of music education are top notch! His rehearsals are fast paced and filled with individual fundamentals as well as ensemble fundamentals which allow the groups to produce a beautiful sound in addition to reaching an extremely high level of musical quality.

In closing, I believe that through his vast experience and superior teaching ability Dr. Martin Reynolds has motivated our music students to not only attain the level of excellence already present in our program, but has raised it to a higher level both in numbers and quality. I give him my highest recommendation. If I can be of further help to you in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Conger, D.M.A.  
Professor of Music (Jazz Director, Low Brass, Music Education, Bands)  
Southeast Missouri State University  
573-651-2398 [rconger@semo.edu](mailto:rconger@semo.edu)