



College & Career Academy
of
Carroll County Schools

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Dr. Douglas Wright
Principal

Katie Bryant
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To Whom It May Concern,

It is a privilege to write this letter of recommendation for Joshua Goodling. I have worked with him for the past four years in his capacity as a motivational speaker for students in the STEM programs in our school system. These include 12 for Life/STEM for Life, Step into STEM, and Full STEAM Ahead.

The students in these programs are selected based on risk factors for not completing high school. These may include credit deficiencies, high absenteeism, and living in poverty. Many of the students in these programs have much academic promise (some are gifted), and the program offers the support that may be missing outside the school setting.

Mr. Goodling has spoken to each of these groups multiple times over the years. His message of hope, encouragement, and overcoming adversity has greatly impacted our students. In fact, we conduct focus groups with the students to learn what is working and what needs to be improved, and Mr. Goodling is consistently mentioned as a highlight of their time in the program. One student from the most recent focus group said that Mr. Goodling changed the way he sees the world. This is quite powerful coming from a teenager.

If you are looking for a speaker who will make a positive impact on your students, Mr. Goodling is the first person I would contact. Students connect with him because his story shows them that anything is possible. This kind of encouraging message is very much needed in the world today.

Thank you,

Douglas Wright

Douglas Wright, Ed.D.
Principal