

1581 NW 101<sup>st</sup> Street  
Clive, IA 50325

May 31, 2014

Women of Influence Selection Committee  
The Depot at 4<sup>th</sup>  
100 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Women of Influence Selection Committee:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Maureen Tobin, who has been a Mock Trial coach and judge during the last twenty-seven years. When I began teaching at Johnston, I asked our attorney coach to help me find a strong female role model for students and Maureen began to coach. She not only coached for me at Johnston, but she also judged at both district and state Mock Trial competitions.

She has continued this work, also coaching for all three of her daughters (and mine) in West Des Moines. During these years, I observed first-hand how much of an influence Maureen had on students. She was able to both model strong speaking and listening skills while providing an understanding of legal procedure and logical thinking. Three years, her teams went on to compete at the national level, including a team that won the High School National Mock Trial Tournament. Students respect and admire Maureen, and many are still in contact with her years after she has worked with them.

Maureen has continued to judge trials, as she is aware how much students can benefit from knowledgeable feedback. She gives clear, constructive comments so that students can improve their performances and gain knowledge of the law. She is fair and calm in her demeanor, but also quick to provide a smile and encouragement. Maureen has made an impact on many young people in the greater Des Moines area through her commitment to the Mock Trial program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Paul".

Kathy Paul

Coordinator of Extended Learning Program, Johnston Middle School