



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

Summit Middle School • 9500 Windsor Pkwy • P.O. Box 10 • Johnston, IA 50131 • (515) 986-0318 • Twitter: @JCSO\_SMS

Principal: Joy Wiebers • Associate Principal: Kevin Blackburn

January 10, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my honor to write a letter of recommendation for Chase Young for nomination for the Forty Under 40 award. I have had the privilege of working with Mr. Young over the past eight years in various roles. Mr. Young is an innovative and passionate leader that is highly driven and works tirelessly to support students. I have worked with him while he has served in two different roles.

While I was the principal at Hiatt Middle School in the Des Moines Public Schools, Mr. Young was a tireless voice for bringing resources to students. As the Community In School liaison, he worked hard to connect programs and businesses to our students. He was instrumental in starting collaboration between Hiatt and Federal Home Loan Bank where students could job shadow and spend a day outside of the classroom walls. This was an incredible experience for our students. Mr. Young also helped build the relationship between Hiatt and the Boys and Girls Club of Central Iowa. Because of this leadership and collaboration, there is now a Club site at Hiatt (Baker Club) for the students to attend after school. Mr. Young was also instrumental in connecting use with GDMLI and formulating a proposal to remodel the school's auditorium which now allows for programs, concerts and events where before it was run down and used for storage.

After I became a building principal for Johnston Community Schools, Mr. Young moved into a role with United Way. During that time we have been able to collaborate through two programs that United Way supports for the Johnston Community Schools, specifically Summit Middle School. Those programs are the Johnston Youth Mentoring Program, JUMP, and our after school program Reach the Summit. He works collaboratively with the schools, community, and various leaders to support students.

Throughout the past eight years while I have had the opportunity to work with and collaborate with Mr. Young, I have been able to observe him set, communicate, and maintain high expectations for himself to impact youth in the Des Moines area on a daily basis. It is without reservation that I recommend Chase Young for the distinguished honor of the Business Record Forty Under 40.

If you have any further questions with regard to his background or qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Joy Wiebers, Principal Summit Middle School

Work – (515) 986-0318