



# Huntington North High School

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March 29, 2005

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my privilege to write this letter on behalf of Mr. John Gardner. John has worked with various aspects of our band program at Huntington North High School during the past thirteen years while I have been the assistant director. He has proven himself capable, reliable, and effective in every area of involvement. John is a strong musician with a steadfast dedication to band music that has played out in many ways at Huntington North, Huntington College, and the community of Huntington.

Mr. Gardner has been our clarinet instructor at Huntington North with great success. He executes clarinet sectionals for marching band and concert band efficiently and has consistently produced strong clarinet sections. He teaches private lessons on clarinet and saxophone. He has organized studio recitals with many of his students progressing to ISSMA State Solo and Ensemble Festival. The students really like his demeanor and teaching style and always are eager to have him return.

John provided solid leadership as President of our Band Boosters during a crucial period. When the High School went to a block schedule and the Junior Highs became Middle Schools by bringing the sixth grade on campus, John prepared a powerful "Defense of the Arts" presentation for the school board to ensure the success of our band program down the road. He also helped secure funding for new band uniforms and a band trip to Disney World. Mr. Gardner proved to be an effective leader and strong advocate for our band program during his tenure as Band Booster President.

John continues to provide support to our program through his fund-raising company. Several years ago he devised a Band Discount Card for our band which has been our most effective money maker. His company continues to produce the card at a very reasonable price which really helps our band.

In addition to his involvement with the Huntington North band program, John has been active in performing with the Huntington College Wind Ensemble for many years. He has give clarinet lessons at the College and served a guest clinician for their annual Band Clinic. John also performs regularly with the Erie Community Band in Huntington during their active summer schedule.

In conclusion, I must reiterate the tremendous support that Mr. John Gardner has provided over the years to the band students of Huntington. His friendly manner, positive attitude, encouraging spirit, outstanding musical abilities, and love for band music have been a blessing to us and I am confident that John would be an invaluable asset to any band program.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Hippensteel  
Huntington North High School Band  
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