



Reed-Custer Community Unit School District #255

Principal
Tim Ricketts

Assistant Principal
Michael Smith

October 20, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to be writing this letter of support on behalf of Mark Smith for the IACTE Nomination. I have worked with Mr. Smith or Chief, as the students call him, last year and this school year. I have been a School Counselor for 15 years and during this time I have seen very few teachers that show the amount of passion that Mr. Smith has for Industrial Tech and his program. Determination, hard-working and adaptability are some words that come to mind when I think of my interactions with Mr. Smith and his teaching style.

Mr. Smith puts in countless hours each school year and over the summer to put the best program in place for his students. He is constantly educating himself on the needs of the industry and then re-designs his classes to meet these needs. Mr. Smith teaches Orientation to Industrial Tech, STEM, Production Tech, and CAD/CAM. He also teaches a Dual Credit Course, CADD and one of the new courses that Mr. Smith is teaching this year is 3D Design. He is an active member of different industry boards and often uses his connections to better himself and his curriculum for his students.

Mr. Smith has his students complete many projects each year where they learn how to use a multitude of tools as well as computer programs. He is constantly showing students how skills learned in classes will be used in different career fields. He is proud of the work that his students accomplish and uses various social media outlets to promote his students' work.

I would like to restate my support of Mark Smith. He is a great teacher and our students love him and his classes. Please contact me if you have questions regarding this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Katie Redwitz
Counselor
Reed-Custer High School
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