



The DePaul Catholic School

44 West Logan Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Phone: 215-842-1266 Fax: 215-842-1400

Website: DePaulPhila.org

April 20, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to recommend Ms. Nadeen Herring for a position at your institution. Ms. Herring has served as the Dean of Student Life at The DePaul Catholic School since July 2016. In that time, she has worked tirelessly to advocate for students and families and build a joyful and inclusive school culture.

Ms. Herring was the first individual to hold the position of "Dean of Student Life" at DePaul. In this position, she worked with students, teachers, and families to, first and foremost, support our students if they struggled to meet the behavioral expectations of our school and, secondly, to implement systems of accountability that helped staff respond effectively to student behavioral concerns in their classroom. At the core of her philosophy in doing this work is a belief in the power of relationships, and to say that she built strong and trusting relationships with our families is an understatement. As a result of her relationships, she welcomed many families into strong and productive partnerships with school staff and navigated challenging conversations about student's individual struggles and crisis situations with ease.

Ms. Herring also spearheaded two significant initiatives, both of which empowered our staff to celebrate and understand one another and our students. The first of these was the establishment of the T.E.A.C.H. (Teaching, Empowering, Advocating, Collaborating and Healing) Committee. The T.E.A.C.H. Committee is a collaborative group of staff members dedicated to planning programming that celebrates the richness of the culture of our school community. The programming included guest speakers, service projects, and community events that brought together families, neighbors, staff and students. The second of these initiatives was to partner with a community organization, specifically, HopeWorks in Camden, to arrange for professional development for our staff around trauma-informed practices for meeting the academic and social-emotional needs of our students. Through this training, and in follow-up with Ms. Herring, teachers had the opportunity to understand the triggers that impact their own and their students' interactions with one another and readiness for learning.

The contributions noted here are just some, among many, of Ms. Herring's contributions to DePaul. She brings to her work a commitment and love for children and an incredible work ethic that will make her an asset to your institution. I welcome the opportunity to discuss her experience and qualifications further, and can be reached at (973)-809-6032.

Sincerely,

Katie Wardlow

Principal, The DePaul Catholic School