



W.P. Clements High School Orchestra

May 25, 2022

To the membership of the Texas Orchestra Directors Association:

It is my honor to submit a resounding recommendation for Sean Carlton as the next Member-at-Large for the Texas Orchestra Directors Association. I am humbled to be able to write this letter in full support of a colleague and friend. Sean has been a constant support and encourager in my life for the past sixteen years. Without sounding like a generic character witness, I hope to showcase Sean as the best choice to see the continued success of our organization.

The first word that comes to mind when thinking about Sean is accountable. Sean does more than talk about accountability; he puts it into action. Once Sean gives you his word as a friend or colleague, he follows through and sees his promise to completion. He is also fully accountable to his students. His preparation off the podium and dedication behind the scenes is evident in the success of the programs he has led in multiple communities across the state. At the same time, Sean holds the people in his life accountable as a confidant and encourager. I can personally attest to his humor and support in motivating me to continue my own personal growth and not backing down from any opportunity. Sean is also an unwavering supporter of building new teachers and encouraging student leaders, which aligns with the current goals of the TODA Board.

In addition to his support and accountability, Sean has the uncanny ability to cultivate unity in a team. Whether as an educator, fellow musician, conductor, teammate, or elected officer, Sean can bring countless people together for a common goal. I greatly enjoy working alongside Sean because he listens and shows empathy. He is never the one to push his own agenda. He will work to do what is best for all parties involved in a situation. The harmony that Sean embodies permeates into every conversation and interaction you have with him.

I know that Sean is the best choice to support the endeavors of the current TODA board. He will be able to encourage and hold the current board members accountable, provide new insight to our continued growth as veteran teachers, and help build the next generation of string educators in our state. Please join me in voting for Sean Carlton as our next TODA Member-at-Large.

Sincerely,

Neal Springer
Lead Orchestra Director, Clements High School Orchestra