

STEFFEN PLUMBING & CONSTRUCTION



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November 10, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter at the request of Charlie Bumpus. I have known Charlie for three years now and have worked with his students a few times at Montgomery Central High School here in Clarksville, TN.

We met briefly when he called upon request for me to bid a plumbing job on a building he and his students were constructing for Montgomery Central High School. From that moment on, we hit it off. I knew right away what kind of man Charlie was. It is very rare in life to know immediately that you are in the presence of a good person. Charlie's love for helping students can be easily recognized by anyone. His patience and humbleness go hand-in-hand. He is always very eager to share his work ethics and traits with his students.

Charlie's character has influenced many children/students in a positive way here in Clarksville Montgomery County, TN. I know this to be true because I have spoken with his students and colleagues personally, who admire and respect him. I can see why Charlie would be nominated for any award of excellence. I believe he is a pillar to his students that will carry on his traditions. Charlie is a beacon to the community and to all that know and work with him.

In the short time that I have known Charlie, every time I leave a conversation with him, I am inspired to be a better person. This is a reflection of his values and character. I am humbled and honored that he would ask me to write letter for him.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Steffen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christopher Eric Steffen



November 9, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Charles Bumpus for the Advance CTE Excellence in Action Award. I had the pleasure of first meeting Mr. Bumpus via email in September 2017 when he responded to my invitation to attend our sponsored Manufacturing Day event at Middle Tennessee Lumber, in Burns, TN.

From my first interactions with Mr. Bumpus, I was anxious to meet this teacher who was extremely enthusiastic about bringing his students to an event that was clearly new to both of us. We corresponded several times via email before the event, and when I finally met him face-to-face, he was surrounded by his students. What I observed is the respect and admiration his students have for him. They did not leave his side, and there was constant conversation about the facility, the activities taking place, and the skills they could apply to their future careers.

It also was clear that Mr. Bumpus saw opportunities to expand his students' skill sets. He quickly developed a rapport with Bill Joyce, Middle Tennessee Lumber's owner, and has collaborated with him to provide wood flooring education for his school's CTE program.

Perhaps my greatest impression of Mr. Bumpus occurred when one his students shared some photos of work he had done in his mother's home. The student had completely renovated an entire bathroom on a very small budget, taking the walls down to the studs and the floors down to the foundation. The student credited his ability to undertake the project with the skills he had learned from Mr. Bumpus, who was standing over his shoulder beaming with pride. It was clear that his students' respect for him was reciprocated with his admiration for them. I've been in education for nearly 20 years and can confirm that Mr. Bumpus is one-of-a-kind. He invests in his students with both his time and his heart.

For these reasons, and others, I offer my highest recommendation for Charles Bumpus to receive the Advance CTE Excellence in Action Award. If I can provide further insight to your review committee, please do not hesitate to contact me at 314-686-1910 or stephanie.owen@nwfa.org.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie Owen", written over a horizontal line.

Stephanie Owen
Education & Member Engagement Director





