

August 25, 2013

To whom it may concern,

Hello, my name is Randy Charles Lavassuer Jr. I was recently informed of Mr. Woods latest evaluation as regards to his "relationship" with students. I attended Oakridge High school as class of 2013. To my belief, Mr. Woods is one of Muskegon's, maybe even Michigan's, best teachers.

Mr. Wood has taught me so much and treats me with as much respect as I treat him, just as he does to any other student in his presence, and I wouldn't blame him. Kids and Teenagers today are getting rotten and I used to be one of those Teenagers. I never tried in his class simply because at first I just slept in his class and hardly paid attention, because it "looked" boring to me, but after the second time around taking his class, after Mr. Woods pushing me to try harder every time, pushing me to get involved, pushing me to not make up excuses as he did to me the first time through his class. I picked myself up and quit being that student who messed around in class.

Mr. Woods class was my hardest class but to my own surprise, Mr. Woods class is where I achieved my highest grade in school and where I really excelled in my work. But I was glad he gave me that push. I felt pride and felt good to achieve good grades in his classroom. Not because Mr. Woods gave me an easy assignment, not because he cut me some slack. Because Mr. Woods gave me the push I needed & the tools I needed to make it happen myself and taught me that in the real world outside of school, that's how it's going to be and I have to take responsibility and take action if I'm ever going to improve and do better in the world.

He is a very active teacher, who creates websites and blogs for students to use at any given time for class work, and helps students inside and outside of the classroom so that he can watch his students take responsibility for their efforts to be successful. Mr. Woods does everything to help his students get involved in "higher thinking" methods. Most teachers today don't do that with their students, and I would in fact call Mr. Woods a role model for teachers today to get involved and actually take their job seriously. Mr. Woods has always told us students, "You are the future of our country, the future relies on what you do, and it's up to you to step up and make the change for the better" and I believe him 100 percent of the way.

It's not Mr. Woods job to "take it easy" on students if they're slacking around in his class, his job is to make sure that his students have everything they need to be successful and to give them the amount of respect that they give him, and he does that while trying to give them that push they need. Mr. Woods sees so much potential in his students and never gives up on them. He may have kicked students out of his class, but I would too if I where him. Students cussed at him, talked during class constantly, and even showed up late all the time unprepared!

My greatest thoughts about Mr. Woods would be that, he doesn't give students what they WANT, Mr. Woods gives students what they NEED!

Sincerely,

Randy C. Lavassuer Jr. (OHS c/o 2013)
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