



northern *State* university

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Dear Administrator,

This is a letter of support for Mr. John Patzlaff. Mr. Patzlaff will be graduating from NSU in the Spring semester of 2014 with his music education degree. He is a highly skilled musician and has taken leadership roles in many facets of the music program at NSU. He will complete the coveted double instrumental and vocal music education degree at NSU and is highly trained all aspects of the music education profession in grades K-12.

Mr. Patzlaff has many strengths. He is a highly accomplished clarinetist and saxophonist serving as both the section principal in the NSU Symphonic Band and the lead jazz tenor in the top NSU Jazz Ensemble. He has a great start with his jazz improvisation skills. In addition to his woodwind skills Mr. Patzlaff took the initiative to play the baritone (brass instrument) in marching band and quickly became a strong section leader in the NSU Marching Wolves. He is also a fine vocalist and has served in a leadership role in NSU Choirs and played in the Aberdeen University Civic Symphony most every semester. In addition to his musical ability, you will find on his transcript that Mr. Patzlaff is a highly accomplished in his other academic courses outside of the music department as well.

Mr. Patzlaff comes from a music education family which gives him a distinct advantage for a young teacher. His father, one of the highest accomplished band directors in the State of South Dakota, provides him with good advice and support in the area of instrumental music education. His mother is an elementary teacher as well.

Mr. Patzlaff has huge potential in the profession and no doubt will grow into one of the leaders in the state and region. With his diverse and eclectic background in marching, concert, jazz, vocal, general music, music technology, and orchestra, any school district will be well served to hire him immediately.

If I were an elementary or secondary administrator I would definitely hire him. Especially for an instrumental position.

Interview this young man. You will be impressed.