

# Congregation of Marians

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July 3, 2003

To Whom It May Concern,



On rare occasion, I write a special letter of recommendation reflecting my strongest personal conviction about an individual. Steven Bliss is fully deserving of such an endorsement, both as a person and as a practitioner. Steve is an individual of exceptional character, vitality, poise, confidence, ability, and faith. He came to Marianapolis in April of 2001, after the Congregation had decided to no longer be involved in the daily operation of the school. It was the decision of the Congregation that we return to our vocational calling in working with students and families in campus ministry and theological instruction, and Steve was recruited to fill positions previously performed by three members of the Congregation. His work for the school is consistently successful, professional, first rate, and of critical importance in fulfilling the mission underlying Marianapolis since its founding in 1926.

In my role as House Superior for the Congregation and member of the Board of Trustees, I have come to expect excellence from Steve in each and every instance and he has never let me down. It is not only a joy, but also a privilege to work with him on a daily basis. Steve has a passion, drive, and determination to succeed and to do so without any compromise to quality, dignity, respect, or his faith. As a Trustee, one of the most important keys to success is to surround myself with the best people. I know that success is imminent when people like Steve Bliss surround me. He is truly a pillar in the infrastructure of Marianapolis Preparatory School.

Regardless of the circumstance, I can count on Steve's personal strength, integrity, reliability, optimism, creative determination, leadership, sound judgment, instinctive commitment to hard work, and keen ability to treat all persons with equity. As an educator who worked as Resident Director and Dean of Students for seventeen years, I can think of no greater traits for one to possess. Steve is unquestionably loyal to the entire school community – the Board of Trustees, Board of Directors, colleague administrators, faculty, staff, students, and parents. He is equally loyal to what he holds dear, namely, working faithfully with students and parents from diverse backgrounds.

Steve administers a school building, and, indeed, conducts his life on a foundation of respect for learning, faith, and one another – *the hallmarks of a true educator*. He reflects a love and respect for education, grounded in a genuine desire to help students develop in the total sense.

I can recommend Steve Bliss to you with enthusiasm, complete confidence, and, admittedly, an acute sense of sadness to see him leave Marianapolis. Please feel free to contact me should you have questions.

Sincerely,

Brother Brian Marian, M.I.C.

Board of Trustees

House Superior, Congregation of Marians

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