

January 24, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to provide a professional recommendation for Ron Jones, owner of [Dialogues on Diversity](#). In my experience working with METCO receiving school districts, and currently, as the Director of METCO for Concord Public Schools ("CPS") and Concord-Carlisle Regional School District ("CCRSD"), I have had the pleasure of working with many keynote speakers. Ron Jones ranks among the very best speakers I've ever encountered. His keynote presentation which he delivered to the CPS and CCRSD community on January 15, 2020, as part of our annual celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was incredibly meaningful. He proactively presented an impactful historical account of the story of the Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunities program ("METCO").

Mr. Jones is a charismatic and dynamic speaker who uses theatrical models to deliver a message of difference, inclusion and social justice. His passion for the subject matter is infectious. In just one hour attendees gained a fresh perspective on the impact of the METCO program and the prominent figures such as Dr. King, who played a major role in ensuring equality and equity in education for predominantly African-American students and their families. Through feedback collected, 100% of attendees were satisfied with Mr. Jones and his keynote presentation, and attendees had the following takeaways from the presentation:

"I wish more people saw his (Ron Jones) presentation and knew the history of METCO."

"I was really moved by the presentation and especially the story of the Hyde Park HS students who tried to go to Lexington HS."

"I'd really love to bring the keynote speaker to our faculty, either at Concord Middle School or even K-12. I'd love his presentation to be followed by the voices of our current (and maybe former) METCO students so that they can describe the "every day" Mr. Jones referenced."

Overall, Mr. Jones has deep professional expertise, and it showed in his keynote presentation. He "edutains" (a balanced combination of education and entertainment) the audience, and draws on his humor which helps the audience feel comfortable to open up about difficult and complicated issues. Mr. Jones crafted a keynote presentation for our community, it was superb, well-received, provided a refreshing dose of good humor and valuable insight into the legacy of Dr. King, as well as, the impact of the METCO program, and engaged the audience in a lively discussion after his presentation. In sum, it is my pleasure to give Ron Jones my highest recommendation as a keynote speaker/presenter. He will deliver valuable information in an inspiring, educational and entertaining manner.

Sincerely,

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