

ARNITRIA KAREN SHAW  
ILLINOIS CENTRAL COLLEGE  
DEAN OF COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS  
1 COLLEGE DRIVE  
EAST PEORIA, IL 61635

May 15, 2021

Greetings Hiring Committee:

I have had the pleasure of knowing Angela Ludlum in a professional capacity for fifteen years. We became acquainted at Von Steuben Middle School in Peoria, IL when Angela became the new Assistant Principal. Her predecessor was quite beloved by both staff and students. Even now, I am amazed by the grace and professionalism Angela exhibited. She wasted no time demonstrating that she was more than capable of embracing our students and staff while helping us rise to even higher levels.

As Student Assistance Advisor, I reported directly to Angela and the building principal. As a supervisor, Angela knew how to identify strengths and utilize them for the betterment of all. This made staff feel valued and it encouraged us to continue to develop. People come along all the time with grand ideas and encouraging words. However, Angela was different. Angela always supported her ideas with well thought out plans, data, and supportive research that allowed us to trust in her judgment and avoid that fear of an idea losing momentum or being a waste of time. Whenever Angela provided us with directives, we knew that both the vision and plan for implementation could be trusted.

I am also impressed with Angela's dedication and true passion for helping students to succeed. Over the years, I have watched her build positive, long-lasting relationships with students and other education professionals. For Mrs. Ludlum, the day did not end when the school bell rang. Students and their families knew that they could count on Mrs. Ludlum to be there during both difficult and frustrating times as well as times of celebration and joy. Currently, several of the students who were fortunate enough to have Angela as their principal attend Illinois Central College. Whenever they see me on campus, they still ask about Mrs. Ludlum and comment on the positive impact she had on their lives. Moreover, I still consider Angela one of my best resources as a colleague. I contact her regularly to discuss issues and innovations in education. In my previous position as the Director of Student Support Services, I assist first generation, low-income, and disabled students with the transition to higher education. Currently, I serve as Dean of College and Career Readiness and Angela's wealth of experience and knowledge in these areas makes her one of my go-to colleagues for advice and information on educational trends in the K-12 setting. Knowing her drive and expertise, I feel that she could seamlessly transition to a post secondary setting.

Without hesitation, I can say that Angela Ludlum will be an asset. Her willingness to go above and beyond professionally and her ability to successfully plan and implement initiatives makes her an excellent colleague and an inspiring leader. If you require additional information, please feel free to contact me at [ASHAW@icc.edu](mailto:ASHAW@icc.edu) or 309.694.8940.

Best regards,

*Arnitria Karen Shaw*

Arnitria Karen Shaw

