March 23, 2007

Universal Technical Institute
1 Upland Road, Building 200
Norwood, MA  02062

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to let you know about the students Max Steiner has inspired through his presentation on career planning.

In essence, Max gives students a reason to stay in school. For some, that is instinctual, intuitive and obvious. For others it is not. No matter with which category a student identifies, Max outlines with back up documentation (both statistical and financial) the value of education. Of all of the motivational presentations I have seen, Max is the best at accomplishing this goal. Whether a student is considering dropping out of education or going on to postsecondary education, Max inspires them to achieve the highest level of education possible.

In addition, Max provides a thorough and in-depth introduction to the various career paths in the automotive industry. His presentation is geared (no pun intended) to attract the attention of a young audience and provides a wealth of information that is necessary for a student to decide whether a pursuit in one of those careers is something they want to explore.

Max is an important partner with me in the orientation of students to the world of work, and I recommend this presentation for all audiences. It is my goal to saturate my school with this message. As of this date, many seniors, all juniors and all sophomores have seen the presentation as well as some high risk freshmen and 8th grade students. I would be happy to speak to anyone who is considering this presentation and has specific questions they would like to ask.

Very truly,

Wendy Farley
Guidance Counselor
Dear Steve,

It has been a pleasure working with you and the “crew” at the Universal Technical Institute in Norwood, and I look forward to continuing to work with you on behalf of our students at East Bridgewater High School. Last week when I received the email inviting us to bring our interested students for a tour of the facility, I was reminded of the many ways you consistently have gone over and beyond to provide valuable resources to me in both my roles as the Director of Guidance and as President of the South Shore Guidance Association.

The task of helping young people figure out who they are, what they want, and how they can plan to achieve their dreams can be very challenging; not all students have the same advantages and so much of what they understand about the world is limited by what they have been exposed to at this point in their lives. Your willingness to collaborate with me and the teachers in our technical education programs has made it possible for us to expose our students to a variety of different avenues in which they might pursue their goals and ambitions. Every time you have visited, whether it was with the evening school students at Whitman Hanson Community Evening School or the day students at East Bridgewater High School, you have delivered excellent presentations. What I found most amazing was that you were able to reach and positively influence all of the students you met with, not only the ones interested in working in the automotive industry. A good part of the message you share is great career coaching for all students; the way you take a genuine interest in each person guarantees that it definitely sinks in.

I appreciate the visits you make to our classes, and the invitation for us to bring students to visit UTI, but I also appreciate the support and professional development workshops you and the staff at UTI have provided for the South Shore Guidance Association and the Massachusetts School Counselor Association. I value your generosity and collegial spirit in partnering with us to provide professional development to counselors across the region and the state. As President-Elect of MASCA this year, I know I will be able to count on you to help with our workshops and conferences, and want you to know how pleased I am to have you and UTI in our court.

Sincerely,

Christine Evans, Director of Guidance and Student Support Services
President-Elect, Massachusetts School Counselor Association 2008-2009
December 3, 2008

Jerry Ellner
National Director of High School Development
20410 North 19th Avenue, Suite 200
Phoenix, AZ  85027

RE:  North Atlantic Regional Meeting, November 21st & 22nd, 2008

Dear Jerry,

On behalf of the Connecticut School Counselor Association, Kathy Scully and I would like to extend our sincere thanks for hosting this year’s North Atlantic Regional Meeting in Exton, PA. Attendance at this meeting was a first time for both Kathy and I and we were very impressed, not only with your generous hospitality, but also with your knowledge and understanding of the unique role that school counselor’s play. Hearing you speak on Saturday morning about the ASCA National Model and how you have connected the National Model with fine detail to the vision at UTI was incredibly validating. It was one of those moments for me where I was in “awe” because someone outside of the school counseling profession was not only speaking our language, but had a true understanding of the challenges we are faced with each day. You are a pioneer in your efforts and we appreciate all that you do.

Please extend our thank you to the rest of the UTI staff, especially Jan for all of the effort and time that went into making our event memorable. I know that both Kathy and I walked away with a clear vision of UTI and all that it has to offer our students. I shared my experience with the high school counselors in my district and plan to have a conversation about the future plans of some of my eighth grade students who would excel in a UTI environment. I was very impressed with not only the opportunity that you award your students, but with the dedication you provide them to ensure that they reach there’re full potential. The lifelong learning opportunities are few and far between and in my mind one of the most valuable assets to your program.

We hope that the upcoming holiday season is one of joy. We will certainly be in touch regarding our 2009 Annual Conference. A possible theme being discussed is School Culture and Climate. Thanks again for all of your time, interest and commitment to student success.

Sincerely,

Carol Tomkalski
President, CSCA

Cc:  Ken Lewandowski
Kathy Scully
2/28/09

Dear Mr. Baldernee,

On behalf of the Nevada School Counselors Association, I would like to thank you for your participation in our 3rd annual conference. The ideas you presented in your breakouts will help us in "setting new standards" as the conference theme suggested.

Thank you, also, for the continued work you do to benefit kids and our profession.

Sincerely,

Johnna Reeves
Secretary