



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Information Services

Eric Soderquist, Director of Information Services

148 North Binkley Street Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7520

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To Whom It May Concern:

Throughout my 23-year tenure in information technology, I have had the privilege of collaborating with a select few professionals who personify the true essence of information technology: the ability to leverage unique skill sets to empower users, all while harboring an insatiable passion for continuous learning, a skill paramount in staying abreast of an ever-evolving technical landscape. Among these select few shines Mr. Patrick Parker.

In my role as the Director of Information Services for the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, I had the distinct pleasure of working side-by-side with Patrick for over four years. It was during this time that I bore witness to the remarkable speed at which Patrick mastered new skills. His journey began with our warehouse team, where he contributed to the accurate and prompt delivery of supplies to and from schools. He then transitioned to supporting the Student Support Services department, supervising the technical aspects of both a FileMaker database platform and a transition to PowerSchool's Special Education platform. His relentless pursuit of knowledge and technical prowess soon propelled him into a broader programmer/analyst role, where he proved instrumental in the design, implementation, and management of countless custom solutions supporting student records and related processes for a K-12 organization.

Patrick's career trajectory is a testament to his extraordinary adaptability and unwavering determination. He has navigated diverse job sectors - from roles in the oil and gas industry, to serving as a commercial driver, to skillfully operating within the realm of information technology. This speaks volumes about his innate ability to learn rapidly and his persistent readiness to embrace change.

However, possessing the aptitude to traverse different job sectors is just one facet of a complex equation. True distinction from peers demands an innate passion and relentless grit – traits that Patrick embodies in abundance. I unequivocally believe that his passion, tenacity, and keen understanding of the importance of teamwork and interpersonal relationships will fuel him to outshine in any role he pursues.

Indeed, it was Patrick's insatiable hunger for knowledge and his innate ability to excel that led him to undertake greater challenges beyond my team. I once presented Patrick with the task of managing a custom-built electronic forms platform aimed at streamlining student enrollment. Unphased, Patrick swiftly honed his skills in Angular and within a span of 12 months, he had fully mastered a complex Angular application and its supporting C# API stack. Even then, Patrick did not rest on his laurels. Realizing that additional operational efficiencies could be



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harnessed, he augmented the system to allow electronic form data to be automatically ingested into the student records platform, saving countless secretarial hours, nearly eliminating human-caused data input errors, and dramatically improving the user experience.

It was this rapid skillset growth and unwavering passion for problem-solving that captivated the attention of Patrick's subsequent endeavors. Although I would eagerly welcome Patrick back into my team, I find solace in the fact that wherever his journey leads him, he is tackling real-world, complex, and meaningfully significant problems. He is contributing to systems that have a tangible impact on the world that we, collectively, are working to shape for future generations. For this reason, I am grateful to have had the opportunity to collaborate with Patrick.

The circle of individuals I would endorse without any reservations is extremely limited, but Patrick effortlessly falls within it. Mere phrases such as "he excels at job X" or "he can proficiently manage technology Y" fail to encapsulate the breadth and depth of his persistence. When it comes to Patrick, I have no doubt that he will conquer any challenge that presents. His passion, determination, thirst for learning, and commitment to teamwork equip him to uplift any organization in any field. For Patrick, the sky is the starting point, and I am confident that he will continue to soar, fueled by the unwavering enthusiasm and dedication that define his every pursuit.

If you have any questions regarding my experience working with Patrick, I welcome the conversation. I can be reached at (907) 714-8803, or by email at esoderquist@kpbsd.k12.ak.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Soderquist".

Eric Soderquist
Director, Information Services
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District