

September 26, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR Selection Committee, DoDEA Teacher of the Year

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Mr. Jacob Dowdell

It is without any hesitation that I submit this memorandum to strongly recommend Mr. Jacob Dowdell for the distinguished honor of becoming the next DoDEA Teacher of the Year.

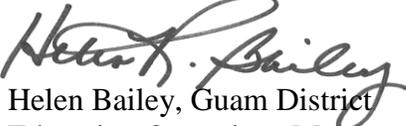
My professional association with Mr. Dowdell began during the 2008 school year at Andersen Elementary School, Andersen Air Force Base (Guam). I was extremely impressed with Mr. Dowdell's active involvement and dedication to the success of all students. He is integral member of our school. Jacob's outstanding leadership skills, persistence, and commitment to excellence are exceptional assets for improving student learning and improving team collaboration among the elementary faculty at Andersen Elementary School.

He was the sponsor for "Shakespeare's Treehouse" (Drama Club) and our Safety Patrol. He has coached football for Guam High School's Varsity team and has been a role model to the young men in the Guam community. Mr. Dowdell organized the faculty to celebrate a weeklong "Read across America" and "Dr. Seuss' Birthday" campaign to involve the PTO and every K-5 student. Mr. Dowdell organized the Guam Greek Council made up of the nine predominately African-American fraternities and sororities that offer scholarships to Guam High School seniors and community service opportunities throughout the Guam community. He organized the "Learn-abration" in honor of African American History Month for both Andersen Elementary and McCool ES/MS.

As a third grade teacher, Mr. Dowdell continues to display enthusiasm for not only the educational success of his students, but also the emotional well-being of all students. He uses songs, dance, rap and recitation to motivate his students. His students have exceptional math, reading and technology skills as seen by his classes Terra Nova scores. He has been proactive in assessing the needs of his students and is always willing to meet with specialists and parents regarding student needs. His pleasant personality, strong belief in excellence and positive demeanor continue to be benefits for our school as well as to DoDEA. Jacob's written and oral communication skills used with administrators, parents and community members are always timely, honest, clear and concise. He uses his website and e-mail to send daily homework reminders to parents and students. He has high expectations for himself, his students and our school.

With regard to the aforementioned qualities accompanying his strong character and leadership abilities, I have no doubt that Jacob Dowdell is highly deserving of the opportunity of being one of the most effective, energetic education leaders as the 2013 DoDEA Teacher of the Year.

If there are any further inquiries about Mr. Dowdell, please feel free to contact me at [Helen.Bailey@pac.dodea.edu](mailto:Helen.Bailey@pac.dodea.edu).

  
Helen Bailey, Guam District  
Education Operations Manager