



I.H. Kempner Sr. High School

December 1, 2015

To whom it may concern;

If you are looking for a young, vibrant, and positive speaker, Jake Ballentine is the person you need to hire. We invited Jake to speak at the TASC District 13 November convention. This was one of the best decisions I have made as District 13 Coordinator. Jake uses music to tell his story and how he overcame what he perceived to be his failure. The students from across the Houston Area were on the edge of their seats listening to him speaking and in the aisles dancing when he sang. He reached them at their level and made that connection that we try to make in our classrooms. All the advisors were excited to listen to him and watch the students react. Some of the comments from the students after the meeting were words like amazing, outstanding, he was real, and he made me think!

I would not hesitate to ask Jake to speak at another TASC District Convention. He is a truly talented young man. If you need more information about him please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Barbara Hoffman'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending from the end.

Barbara Hoffman  
TASC District 13 Coordinator  
TASC State Convention Coordinator 2016  
Kempner High School Student Council Advisor  
U.S. History  
281-634-5441



Preparing Every  
Student for Success in  
College, Career and Life

TREVOR G. BROWNE HIGH SCHOOL  
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Kent P. Scribner, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

Dr. Gabriel Trujillo  
Principal

Date: February 10, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

On January 23, 2015, Trevor G. Browne High School hosted the yearly Phoenix Union High School District Leadership Conference. This year, as the host school, my Student Government officers and representatives decided on the theme: *Sounds of Leadership*. For this reason we were very excited to have discovered Jake Ballentine in our search for guest speakers. We truly wanted to incorporate music into a leadership-based talk that our district's young leaders could gain insight from. I am happy to say that we received exactly what we were looking for. All 450 students in attendance walked away having laughed and reflected on their leadership skills; which is never easy to accomplish with teenagers!

What impressed us even further was that Jake took the time after our event to make a short video to address our students and sent it to us via email. Knowing that an adult actually cared enough to thank them for their leadership, polite behavior, and school spirit was just as impactful on them as his live presentation had been.

I sincerely hope that numerous other groups of students will have the opportunity to meet Mr. Ballentine, hear his message, and enjoy his humor. I am certain that future audience members will enjoy hearing from Jake as much as we did here at Trevor G. Browne High School!

Sincerely,

**Ms. Alyse Kaufman**  
*US/AZ History I & II*  
*Student Government Advisory*  
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Alhambra

Bioscience

Bostrom

Trevor G. Browne

Camelback

Central

Cesar Chavez

Cyber

Desiderata

Betty H. Fairfax

Franklin

Carl Hayden

Maryvale

Metro Tech

North

South Mountain

Suns-Diamondbacks



To Whom It May Concern:

We had the pleasure of having Jake Ballentine as our keynote speaker for our California FBLA Leadership Development Institute, North, conference. Jake did a fantastic job presenting to our 900 student leaders, and was the perfect way to kick off our conference. Jake was inspiring and engaging. He did a great job using his unique blend of music and speaking to deliver a powerful message. Jake was very easy to work with and conducted himself in a very professional manner. I would highly recommend him for any leadership event!

Pamela Stalley  
CA FBLA Management Team President  
Northern Section Director

To Whom It May Concern:

The Fairfield High School and Junior High Student Councils would like to acknowledge and recommend Jake Ballentine as a professional speaker for your school assembly or convention. Jake brought a dynamic message to our Student Council convention and to our whole student body and was very well received by the students. His down to earth manner and ability to communicate with young people made him very approachable. He spent time just visiting with and getting to know the students personally. His caring demeanor and message touched the students and they responded very positively.

Jake definitely met our expectations! His keynote and workshop inspired us to make a difference by giving that little Extra to turn the ordinary into Extraordinary.

Cindy Luoma  
Fairfield High School  
Montana Association Of Student Council District II