



August 1, 2019

To Whom it May Concern:

I am pleased to offer my unreserved recommendation for Jones Software Corporation and its employees, Kevin Jones and Kenya Brooks-Jones, as stand out members of the education sector.

I first encountered Jones Software Corporation when the company signed on to participate with IBM in a STEM Challenge presented by my non-profit, the Illinois Science and Technology Institute (ISTI), in the 2018-19 academic year. STEM Challenges are long term, high exposure experiences for students centered around real world, industry-authentic issues. Above all else, this program aims to cultivate 21st century skills in our students by building bridges between the company and the classroom through dedicated mentor teams. Because of this goal, the success of a partnership depends on a mentor's dedication. In that regard, Kevin Jones and Kenya Brooks-Jones of Jones Software Corporation were our ideal mentors.

Kevin and Kenya displayed volumes of dedication, heart, and empathy when working with our students. They went above and beyond to encourage the curiosity of the students, lending them the tools to express their ideas and pushing them to innovate beyond the walls of their classroom. The Jones Software volunteers gave just enough guidance to empower the students in their own decision making, allowing them control over their own project while also providing the industry expertise and professionalism unique to Jones Software Corporation.

I highly recommend Jones Software Corporation and Kevin and Kenya, as I believe they would be an asset to any volunteerism and educational effort. I'd be happy to answer any questions or further discuss this recommendation. Please feel free to contact me at spg@istcoalition.org.

Sincerely,

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