

Dear _____,

As you probably already know, Mrs. LaField has a program in our class called “You’re Hired!” that she created to help her students develop a strong work ethic and at the same time become People of Character. The program has four different steps, and the last step, called Valued Employee, is the one I’m working for.

To be hired, I have to come to class on time, be dressed appropriately, be courteous and follow our Red Light procedures. If we prove to Mrs. LaField that we are doing all of those, we fulfill Step One and get hired.

Step Two is called First Promotion, and it’s a lot harder to earn! I have to continue doing everything in Step One in addition to proving to Mrs. LaField that I’m a respectful, responsible hard worker with a positive attitude.

The next step, Second Promotion, requires that I continue doing everything in Steps One and Two and adds two more requirements: I have to help my peers get promoted—be a team player—and I have to obey with a Right Heart attitude. Mrs. LaField added that one because she wants to teach me to have a positive, respectful attitude on the job, but even more importantly, she wants to teach me the importance of treating my parents with respect and responding to your requests in a positive manner—*the first time you ask!*

The final step, Valued Employee, is the one I’m working toward. To earn the prize of Valued Employee, I have to prove to Mrs. LaField that I’m completely trustworthy. She has to be absolutely convinced that when I’m out of her sight, I can be depended upon to be doing exactly what I’m supposed to be doing. She’s teaching me that with freedom comes responsibility and that “the true test of who I am is what I do when nobody is watching.”

When I become a Valued Employee, I will not only be prepared for success in the work world, but I will also be well on my way to becoming a Person of Character with integrity, who behaves like a Valued Employee everywhere I go—including at home! So you see, I will not earn the title of Valued Employee unless you can assure Mrs. LaField that I fulfill all the requirements at home.

That's what the job application is for. She wants us to sit down and thoughtfully—in the light of the truth--discuss the qualifications one at a time. Mrs. LaField asks that you be as strict in your assessment as she and my other teachers are at school. If you decide that there are areas in my life that need improvement, she asks that you wait and watch for improvement before you check those areas off. Once you agree that I have successfully fulfilled each and every one of the requirements, Mrs. LaField asks that you sign this letter and add a few comments.

Finally, Mrs. LaField wants you to know that you can be expecting an occasional "progress report" to assure her that I am continuing to exhibit the behaviors of a Valued Employee and Person of Character. As in the real work world, I will be expected to consistently display a strong work ethic. Failure to do so will mean temporary probation or termination of "employment."

Thomas Edison once said, "If we did all the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astonish ourselves." With you to help guide me at home and my teachers to help guide me at school, I can't help but astonish myself! Thank you for your support and encouragement. Where would I be without it?

Love,

Applicant _____

Parent _____

Comments _____

