



Milton Bradley Elementary School

22 Mulberry Street

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## SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS - SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

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Dear Cosby Media Productions,

I am both honored and humbled as I write a letter of endorsement for Keshawn Dodds, a champion of character whom I have known for over 20 years in his youth as an outstanding football player and team leader where I served as his Head Football Coach and now as a pillar of the Springfield community in the variety of ways he shines his light: Keshawn is a professional author, a community servant and volunteer, an educator and motivational speaker, a champion for social justice, a great teammate and perhaps his best role, Dad and husband. I give Keshawn Dodds my full endorsement with his fantastic book series Menzuo S. W. (Solar Warriors) for many reasons:

As in any book or book series, I look to the author and this author is a person who truly is a role model for ALL to follow and help transform our world. Since his youth, Keshawn has displayed integrity in all he says and does. He possesses those necessary attributes worthy of such distinction as a champion of character: he is honest, diligent, unselfish and giving, kind, fair, and so incredibly likeable for people of ALL ages and walks of life. As a leader, Keshawn gets the notion of service above self. As a speaker, he captivates his audience at any level. Last month he held our entire inner city school of 600 children entranced with his poignant stories about Menzuo.

As an author, Keshawn's series sends a message of love and hope, courage and fears, creativity and fantasy, all hooks for the reader both child and adult. His message of love and hope appeals to all and in its own way helps bring us all closer together, something that we desperately need today.

In closing, I have served as a school leader for nearly 30 years in the role of Principal and Superintendent and perhaps my most cherished role was Coach. In all of my years of service, Keshawn Dodds is the one who has had the greatest impact on people both then and now. I am a better Dad, Grandfather, Husband, and educator because of him and I have witnessed firsthand his impact upon others. I look forward to continue stories of Menzuo's adventures!

Sincerely,

Dr. John Rizzo

The Milton Bradley Community will empower all students to master comprehension strategies and written expression in order to reach proficiency across all content areas as measured by MCAS and all district assessments.