
PRINCIPAL
Jeffrey P. Odders



ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
Jeffrey A. Soderberg

Mr. Fruteland Jackson
3473 S. King Drive
Suite #221
Chicago, Illinois 60616
May 18, 1999

Dear Fruteland,

Your Blues in the Schools program will be remembered here in Mosinee as one of the all-time greatest assembly programs that this district has ever seen. I'll admit that I was a little apprehensive about bringing an acoustic blues program to central Wisconsin, but within the first two minutes of your first presentation all of my concern was dispelled. Your program is both educationally effective and entertaining. Once having seen your program, I don't believe that there is a student in Mosinee that can't tell you what the Blues is and where it came from.

As each group of students left the auditorium following your performances the halls were filled with talk of music. Students and teachers alike made an effort to reach me to comment on what a wonderful program you had presented and to ask how I'd managed to find you. Parents related stories about listening to their kids talking about electric versus acoustic music on their ride home from school. Others talked about their kids pointing out that music heard in commercials and on movie soundtracks was Blues. Another reported taking her son out to buy a Leadbelly CD after learning about him and his music from you. One of our band directors, who had helped to finance your visit with clinic money, declared that it was money well spent. I have received e-mail messages from many staff members commenting on how wonderful your program was and many teachers and students have written letters of appreciation. I am including all of them with this letter.

Your friendliness and willingness to share your knowledge of the music and your "chops" with others, students and principal alike, also contributed to the overall enjoyment of the experience of having you here. I can say with absolute certainty that you have fans and friends in Mosinee and, now that we've earned our learners permits, we'd love to bring you back to guide us down the next stretch of the "Blues Highway." I only hope that, once word gets out about the quality of your program, you'll be available and affordable.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jeff", written in a cursive style.

Jeffrey P. Odders, Principal

P.S. I, personally, look forward to the time when our paths cross again; if not the Chicago Blues Festival, then, definitely, the Mississippi Valley Blues Festival.