



The Independent School District of Boise City

8169 W. Victory Road
Boise, Idaho 83709

(208) 854-4000
Fax (208) 854-4008

Maine Technology Institute
Maine Entrepreneurial Resource Corp

August 19, 2024

RE: Recommendation for John Gardner to the Maine Entrepreneurial Resource Corp

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support and recommendation of Dr. John Gardner, Gardner Energy Strategies, for placement on your team with the Maine Entrepreneurial Resource Corp. I have known John for over a year and have worked closely with him for the past 6 months. For most of that time, he was working with Warm Springs Consulting, with whom the Boise School District has contracted to help us in sustainability planning and execution. Recently, when Warm Springs dissolved, John started his own firm (Gardner Energy Strategies, LLC) and continues to work with us in our efforts to develop a sustainability action plan for the district.

John has a deep understanding of a broad range of topics pertinent to our work. From building energy efficiency to renewable energy development and utility tariff structures, John's analysis continues to lead to deep and actionable insights for me and my team. His ability to drill into the data and create a manipulatable tool for us to use with multiple variables has enabled us to predict our needs and capabilities faster than we had anticipated.

In addition, John is great to work with. He's an excellent communicator, listens attentively, and lets us know what he's thinking along the way. He over-delivers on his commitments and is always available for questions and clarifications. I'm thrilled to have John on our team and I look forward to continuing to work with him as we move forward.

My understanding is that the Maine Entrepreneurial Resource Corp provides consulting services to new businesses in Maine. I think John's broad background, his native curiosity, and his ability to grasp complex issues quickly, along with his impressive people skills, would make him a great fit for MERC. You'd be lucky to have him on the team. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Alison Ward
Sustainability Supervisor
Boise School District
alison.ward@boiseschools.org

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