October 4, 2022

I am writing in full support of Detective Tom Ballinger for the position of Wayne County Sheriff. He is a highly dedicated law enforcement officer and a more dedicated person that is always there for others.

I began working with Tom when he became an officer in Copley Township in 2008. It was easy to initially see his ceaseless commitment as a police officer but it quickly became more apparent that his involvement went far and above typical expectations. He is the type of person that does whatever is necessary to ensure the safety of our students, our families, our staff and community members.

Tom answers any call at any hour, is an integral part of our student safety committee, and is a vital resource and support to staff and students in need. He has built a level of trust that I have not seen matched in my thirty-four years of experience in the public school system.

Detective Ballinger has played an integral role in crafting the District safety and security plan. The relationships he has developed with our staff and students, the countless hours he has dedicated, and the understanding of the inner workings of the district have allowed this plan to be catered to most effectively meet our safety and security needs.

He has held numerous trainings for staff, parents and community members over the years. His leadership and vision for the care, safety and protection of the communities we serve are unsurpassed. He never stops working towards creating and maintaining the safest environment for our schools.

I could not imagine a more dedicated person to be the next Wayne County Sheriff.

Sincerely,

Brian E.Poe Superintendent

Copley-Fairlawn City Schools