

August 17, 2015

To who it may concern,

Earlier this year in February 2015, I was expelled from Bend Senior High because of my use and distribution of marijuana. This event put my family and me into a very grievous, stressful period. I was fortunate enough to have a close family friend offer to take me in and live with his family in Billings, Montana. He cared about me and hated to see my family and me go through all the pain we were experiencing so by taking me in he gave me an entirely fresh start. He let me work for his company (Billings Flying Service) and I was able to enroll in Billings Senior High School.

I attended Billings Senior High the second semester of 2015. While I was there I was blessed with meeting the nicest and most sincere people. I attended Young Life meetings and began my training for a private pilots license. I worked everyday after school and flew on the weekends. I saw a psychologist weekly to work on my self esteem issues and sort out other personal problems. I was treated like a real employee at the flying service and had monthly drug tests.

Now that I'm home I have continued drug testing, seeing a counselor and flying everyday. Although what I put my family through was a painful and egregious time and I am so sorry for what I did I still feel it needed to happen. I had struggled with drug and alcohol abuse since early sophomore year, and ever since then I had increasingly grown apart from my parents. The route I chose all through my sophomore and half my junior year was a slippery slope and I was going down hill fast. It was by the grace of God that I was caught and still had time to turn my life around. If I kept going down the path of darkness, I wouldn't of pursued flying like I am, I would not have met good, real down to earth people, or come back closer with Jesus and my parents.

I am passionate about my sports, which are mainly water polo and lacrosse. I play both year round on club teams and it is always a pleasure to play on the Bend Senior High teams as well. I would absolutely love to play this year and I hope you may consider my request. Sports are a way for me to wind down after school and deal with the stress in my life and enter another world where all my focus is entirely on the sport at hand.

I am so appreciative and thankful for a second chance in returning to Bend High, and I really do appreciate your consideration in letting me participate in sports again. I feel I'm definitely on the right track and that nothing like last year will ever happen again. This whole thing has been a huge life lesson and it has even opened entirely new doors to a better life that I didn't realize were there. I'm blessed to have such a caring family and great community that helped me through my rough times. I plan to show others that people can make positive changes in their lives by being a upstanding leader in all I do at school, sports and in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luke Peters". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Luke Peters