

August 8, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

Our son, Sean McHugh, will enter Edison High School this September for his sophomore year. We feel that he is finally at the "right" school for him to best develop his talents and mature into the outstanding young man that we know he is and will continue to be.

Sean was diagnosed with ADHD in 5th grade when he attended Cathedral Grade School and he struggled with academic issues for much of his middle school years. This continued until finally in 8th grade he was diagnosed with depression and anxiety and put on medication.

The medication helped and he was accepted to Central Catholic as a freshman in 2014. He had a difficult time at Central and we decided in November to transfer him to Lincoln High School to complete the fall semester of his freshman year. After he completed the semester in January he wanted to stop taking the medications and quit all the meds cold turkey. He was unable to attend school during this time and in February of 2015 we made the difficult decision to place Sean in a Therapeutic Wilderness Program at 2nd Nature (now called Evoke). Sean spent 8 weeks in the program in Central Oregon and subsequently another 4 months at Schrom Therapeutic Home for Boys in Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

During this time he earned high school credits from the wilderness program and while taking summer school classes at Bonners Ferry High School. He will start in September slightly short on credits for where he should be after freshman year but not so far behind as to jeopardize his ability to graduate on time with his class in 2018.

Edison is the best place for Sean to thrive not only because it has small class sizes and teachers that understand kids with learning differences but also because of its affiliation with Jesuit and the fact that he can participate in Jesuit sports.

Sean loves to play sports and they have helped him with self esteem throughout his life. He doesn't need medication for depression and anxiety when he has the outlet of sports. Being part of a team is vitally important for his overall happiness and we fear that if he is not able to participate in football that his struggles in school will be exacerbated.

We hope that Sean will be given the opportunity to continue to play the sports that he loves while attending Edison High School.

Thank you,

Robert McHugh & Lesli Williamson