



## SALEM-KEIZER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mr. Tom Welter  
Executive Director  
Oregon Schools Activities Association

SPRAGUE HIGH SCHOOL  
Craig Swanson, Principal  
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Christy Perry, Superintendent

Dear Mr. Welter:

I write to you today to encourage you to approve the Eligibility Request Form for Karsen Powers. I was named Principal at Sprague High School on July 1, 2015. My first day on the job was helping our school and community cope with the tragic loss of one of our student-athletes. Karsen was extremely close with the student who passed away.

Prior to this tragic event, Karsen had not had the academic success required to be eligible for OSAA sanctioned athletics. He had 15.5 credits and had only passed four classes second semester which ended June 2015. Upon learning this, our AD Jeff Chandler and an academic counselor met with him to spell out what Karsen needed to accomplish over the summer to become eligible for fall sports 2015. Karsen dedicated himself to all of the expectations that were established. He attended summer school at Sprague and passed his second semester of Geometry. This satisfied the requirement of passing five classes from prior semester. Worth noting, this would have also satisfied the requirement to be on track to graduate, however, that requirement was raised to 17 credits effective August 1.

Karsen also enrolled in two online courses to raise his credits earned to 17 by the start of the 2015-16 school year, ultimately making him eligible by all OSAA standards. Due to the tragic loss of his good friend, Karsen fell behind on the online courses and had not passed the courses by the July 31 deadline. The online course deadlines have been extended for Karsen, however, a teacher will not resume those courses until September.

I am asking you to approve Karsen's eligibility under the following circumstances:

1. We will monitor his progress on the two online courses that will resume in September. If he is not making adequate progress, we will revoke his eligibility.
2. We will monitor his fall semester academic progress. If he fails to pass all classes on each weekly progress report, we will revoke his eligibility.

I believe this plan will help him stay on track to graduate and will keep him connected with our high school to better prepare him to work through the different phases of grief he is suffering through currently.

Thanks for your consideration,

Craig Swanson  
Principal  
Sprague High School