



9/10/15

Halie Ketcher
Al Kennedy Alternative High School
1310 S. 8th St.
Cottage Grove, OR 97424

Dear Tom Welter and OSAA,

My name is Halie Ketcher and I writing in response to Jacob Burrell's request to play high school sports. I worked as Jacob's Special Education teacher over the 2014-15 school year. Jacob was a senior last year and was on an IEP. I can report that Jacob was working toward his IEP goals over the course of the year. He was able to meet one goal and made sufficient progress toward the other.

Jacob began his senior year as a transfer from other school. He was not used to the rigor and accountability that we hold students to here at Al Kennedy. He struggled the first term to complete work at a pace that would keep him on track to graduate. It was difficult for him to understand why he was not earning the same amount of credit he had earned in the past for working at a slower pace. After a couple meetings and discussions, he was able to understand that we were holding him to higher expectations and that he would need to increase his pace and work production if he wanted to graduate. He showed that understanding by earning more credits his final term at Al Kennedy.

I feel that participating in sports would be very helpful for Jacob. He is a high-energy person and really enjoys being active. I believe having the opportunity to participate in sports would help him with his focus and his academics.

If you have any additional questions about Jacob's progress while here at Al Kennedy, please feel free to contact me at 541-767-3462 or at halie.ketcher@slane.k12.or.us.

Sincerely,

Halie Ketcher
SPED Case Manager
Al Kennedy Alt. High School