

To: Tom Welter
OSAA
Executive Director

From: Toby Walker
Phoenix High School
Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

Date: September 22th, 2015

This is a letter in regards to William Frazee and his ineligible status due to grade deficiency and satisfactory progress towards graduation.

William is currently a senior at Phoenix High School and he has attended our district off and on for the last four years.

Will's story is one of the most depressing stories I have heard of in all my years of education so far. Will attended Phoenix High School his 9th grade year and he was very successful and passed all but 1 class all year. His 10th grade year was much of the same success, but he started to slip on his grades towards the end of his sophomore year and didn't pass as many classes. Will's 11th grade year he only passed 2 classes. This was the time in which he was homeless and looking for food and a place to sleep. This year, his 12th grade year he is living independently, which would classify as homeless, but he is getting some financial support from his grandmother. Will has enrolled in Oregon Connections Academy so that he can complete his lost credits at a much faster rate than a traditional classroom. He will be on track to graduate with Connections this year.

Will's story is a story of heartbreak. He has been passed from house to house, abandoned by dozens of people, surrounded by drug use and yet he has put himself in a position to graduate this year. Will has had some struggles with drugs and alcohol when he was homeless last year. He is currently attending drug and alcohol counseling weekly on Tuesdays. I have waited to submit this hardship until Will proved that he would stay out for football for three weeks. Not only has he stayed out, he has been a great example to many students about perseverance.

Will is desperately wanted to gain eligibility for his senior year as he has many regrets from last year and he is currently in a stable position. I strongly believe that by him gaining eligibility it will only further keep him engaged with great student-athletes and adults that can further provide support for him.

Sincerely,

Toby Walker
Phoenix High School
Athletic Director/Assistant Principal