

To whom it may concern,

Regarding my son, Matthew Gallegos, I'd like to ask for consideration that he may be given a 5th year of eligibility as it pertains to the OSAA.

Towards the end of his first semester in 2014, Matthew started dealing with some severe depression and sleep issue, which greatly affected his ability to perform in school. He actually suffered from an episode of sleep paralysis at school and was taken by ambulance to the ER where he was kept for several hours. This led to him being seen by a sleep specialist as well as receiving care for his mental health. At the end of this semester, his mother and I met with a team of school staff members to discuss an IEP for him as well as the opportunity for him to receive incompletes for several of his classes so that he may be able to stay on track to graduate.

Shortly after the second semester had started, Matthew suffered overwhelming depression from a series of upsetting events that led him to a suicide attempt. With the help of several Doctors and other Mental Health professionals, we choose to remove Matthew from his current school program and admit him into a residential treatment program for youths with similar problems. He was a in this treatment program for the better part of 3 months and upon return was not able to go back to school, thus missing the entirety of the second half of his senior year.

Matthew has turned an amazing corner in his life. He changed school and is working in the deli at the local grocery store, I couldn't be more proud. Two of Matthew's greatest passions in school and life are music and theatre and I think it would be an invaluable asset for him to be able to participate and potentially compete with his classmates in these areas. I know that value of activities in high school is not missed on the OSAA and humbly ask you to grant my son a second chance.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Scott Gallegos