

September 17, 2015

To whom it may concern,

I am Matthew Gallegos' mom. He had a very rough year last year; his senior year at the Milwaukie Academy of the Arts. In February, he left school to be placed in a mental health facility in Corvallis, Oregon. He was away from home, school, and his friends. He had a complete mental health evaluation which provided information that was helpful but also sad. He was stabilized with medication and counseling. He returned home at the end of May. He missed all graduate activities with friends, missed 6.5 academic credits, and missed out on the senior experience that he should have had. This year, we are hoping that he gets to have a do-over to have his senior experiences, graduation, and a more typical year.

Drama and choir have always been important to Matthew. They offer Matthew an outlet to be himself and to express his feelings. I ask that you allow him to perform in plays and choir as though this is his first senior year. Last year's circumstances were unforeseen and unavoidable. Please let him experience a more typical year with full participation in all areas including the performing arts and competition within those areas. These activities also offer college preparation and scholarship opportunities.

Thank you for your time and understanding.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Thomas

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