



Newport High School

322 NE Eads, Newport, OR 97365
Phone: 541-265-0281 Fax: 541-574-2228

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Wayne Spencer
Athletic Director
Newport High School
Newport, Oregon 97365

Tom Welter
Executive Director, OSAA
25200 SW Parkway Ave Suite 1
Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

Dear Mr. Welter,

Newport High School is requesting an eligibility waiver for Cody Middleton. Cody is a junior and desires to play football this season.

Cody did not attain the necessary grades during the second semester of the 2014-2015 school year, here, at Newport High School. However, if the term hardship is to be applied to a student's appeal, Cody's last few months would absolutely meet the definition.

Cody moved to Newport in November of 2014. As I understand it, Cody, his sister Ashley and his mother left Nevada suddenly (for reasons that I do not fully understand) and moved to Newport to live with his older brother William. Cody's first months in Newport were a virtual state of homelessness; he slept on the floor and food and sundries were in short supply. In early 2015 Cody's mother and sister, Ashley, left the home. Cody's brother is a fisherman and often out of the home for extended periods of time; his sister-in-law to be was often not at home either – Cody was, basically, on his own.

Given these circumstances it is easy understand how academics could take a secondary position in Cody's life. Cody passed three of six classes during the second semester. Thus, he is currently grade deficient.

I met with Cody for the first time three weeks ago. After learning his story I was struck by what a resilient, positive and personable young man Cody is. He told me that his living situation has improved, yet, Cody had to deal with the death of his mother over the summer. I am so very impressed with positive attitude this young man demonstrates. Cody recognizes that his academic efforts were not acceptable; he accepts responsibility. However, given the circumstances that Cody has had to face I feel that he is deserving of an opportunity like that of athletic eligibility.

Sincerely,

Wayne Spencer
Athletic Director