



# Clackamas High School

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OSAA

Re: Dylan Blazevec eligibility appeal

I am pleased to write this letter on behalf of Dylan Blazevec, in the hope that he will be found eligible to play basketball this season. I am Dylan's counselor at Clackamas High School and am well aware of the many hardships in Dylan's life.

Dylan has had many barriers to consistent housing. He has tried to maintain his residence with his mother, but her house is not a healthy place for him to live. Dylan has been to three different high schools since he began high school. During freshman year, he started the year living with his Mom, failed many of his classes, then moved in with his Aunt Nicki and passed all of his classes. During his sophomore year he lived with his mother and attended both Wilson High School and New Urban High, an alternative high school in our district. You can see that his grades reflect an unstable home situation that entire year. When he returned to Clackamas at the beginning of his junior year, he was living with his Mom, but soon moved into his aunt's house, where he has stability and expectations for his behavior. He passed almost all of his classes last year, and made up two full credits in our District Summer School Credit Recovery program. The stability at his Aunt's home is what keeps Dylan in a success mode.

I have been in constant communication with Dylan and his aunt about his progress toward graduation. Because he has failed so many core courses, he is behind in elective credits and will not graduate on time unless he makes those credits up outside of school. He plans to take classes through the BYU Independent Study Program, where he can earn elective credit toward his Standard Diploma. If he does not earn all of his credits by June, he will finish in the summer and will still earn his 2016 high school diploma.

Dylan is a really great young man who wants to do well, but has had so many barriers along the way. I am grateful that he has a place to live in which he is nurtured and supported in his educational goals. As long as he remains in his aunt's household, I have no doubt he will be able to finish high school no later than this summer. Being eligible to play basketball would be such a positive experience for him. He has shown he is capable of hard work, even in the face obstacles.

Please consider granting an exception for Dylan so he can enjoy the benefits of participating in school sports. It would be such a positive experience for him and is a goal he has been working toward for the past year. Thank you for the opportunity to write to you on Dylan's behalf.

Sincerely,

  
Julie Bauder  
Counselor