

Crater High School



Athletic Department

655 N 3rd Street
Central Point, OR 97502
Phone 541-494-6386 Fax 541-494-6286

To : Tom Welter - OSAA

From : David Heard
Crater High School
Athletic Director

I am writing in regards to a young man that has moved into a foster home in the Central Point School District and is now attending Crater High School. His name is Silo Garcia, and he has had a very difficult life up to this point. Silo is currently enrolled in a full schedule and is doing quite well. Silo has also tried out for the Boys Basketball team and made the Junior Varsity squad.

I am advocating for an academic hardship as Silo has not been able to accumulate many high school credits to this point. I believe that Silo's new placement in a secure and stable home has proven that he is a kid who can continue to thrive and eventually graduate from high school in three more years. The guidance counselor has a solid plan in place for Silo to obtain his credits.

Reading his story in a letter he has submitted, listening to his teachers, principal and coaches, I truly believe we can change a boy's life here at Crater High School. Please consider putting Silo on academic probation, that I will monitor, and allowing him to play Junior Varsity Basketball this season.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Heard', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Heard, Athletic Director
Crater High School
541-494-6386
David.heard@district6.org

Crater School of Business Innovation and Science

655 North Third Street Central Point, OR 97502

(541) 494-6342 matthew.meunier@district6.org

November 20, 2015

RE: Silo Garcia

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I write this letter for Silo Garcia.

I am Silo's guidance counselor at Crater High School. I am happy to write this letter on his behalf. He is currently passing a full schedule of classes. He is meeting with his teachers during lunch hour when needed for extra help. His foster dad is very supportive and Silo is reliable, responsible and determined to succeed.

Silo lived in Klamath Falls when he was in middle school. His mother was in and out of jail, he and his younger siblings were homeless. Silo couch surfed and his attendance at school was not adequate. His freshmen year continued the same and in the spring he was placed in a shelter. He spent several months in a boys home in Coos Bay. He was transferred to Family Solutions in Central Point before the start of his sophomore year. He attended Crater the first month of his sophomore year and spent the remainder of the year with Family Solutions.

He was placed in a stable foster home during the summer of 2015. He enrolled at the beginning of the year and has done a good job in his classes. He has been an outstanding citizen. Silo has a full schedule of classes. He will need two online classes this summer and the following summer and a full schedule for three years in order.

Sincerely,



Matt Meunier
Student Services Coordinator
Crater High School

My name is Silo Garcia and I love basketball and other sports, but unfortunately I lack credits and grades in my past due to living situations and changes.

My freshmen year I was homeless and slept wherever I could, but then I found somewhere temporary to stay. I enrolled in school but soon found out that I couldn't understand a lot of what was being taught, because my 7th and 8th grade year I was technically homeless and it was hard attending school. So during freshmen year it was hard adapting to being in school and learning about all these classes without any help. I had no idea about resources, and who was willing to give me the help I needed. So school was going bad and I wasn't earning any credits, and I had so much stress and difficulty in my life already that I felt like giving up. So that lead up to me not attending a lot of days of school. When I did go, I tried but didn't accomplish much. Older kids bullied me and I seemed to get mad a lot, teachers didn't understand my situation and why school was difficult for me but I did the best I could. When freshmen year was almost over I got put into DHS and was placed into shelter homes. I went to Coos Bay shelter for three months and then got put into Central Point boys home. The boys home was the first placement that I actually stayed at for more than six months. During my stay there they did homeschooling, so I did not attend public school. I didn't have the opportunity most kids did, to earn credits at a pace everyone else was going at. I did have a goal though, and that was to earn credits so I could catch up and be on track to graduate. My homeschooling was online and it was hard learning and doing assignments with no teacher to guide me in that subject. Eventually I was passing all my classes with good grades. So the boys home thought that since they were seeing improvement in my education, they would put me in a local high school and that's Crater where I am now attending. During sophomore year is when they put me in Crater but I only attended for a short while because I thought I could earn credits faster online and also I heard news about my family and it made me very depressed. So I finished sophomore year in the boys home, and graduated the boys home in July and got put in a foster home/adopted. Now I am attending Crater full time and mostly maintaining my grades. Being in the home I am in now has been the greatest positive influence I have ever had in my life, and I couldn't ask for better foster parents. My life has been very difficult, but I am no longer using that as an excuse, because now I see the potential I have and the outcomes education will give me. Education is the most important thing to moving on in life, and without it I can't guarantee a good future.