

November 20, 2015

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter to explain my request to allow Emma Hatcher to compete with the CHS Swim Team in the 2015-2016 Winter Season.

Emma moved from Medford, OR to live with myself, Cheliss Thayer, and my husband, Jared Thayer, in June of this year. Jared and Emma are brother and sister. Jared and I also have guardianship over Emma.

It became very apparent in Emma's freshman year of high school in Medford that she was not receiving the help that she needed to be successful academically or socially. During her freshman year alone, Emma went through 3 different high school changes due to academics, bullying, and social reasons. Emma's mother, Dawn Hatcher, was also unavailable to be present enough with Emma because of her work schedule and other obligations in her own life. Emma was falling through the cracks.

Jared and I took it upon ourselves to reach out to Emma, and to Dawn, and offer some stability and presentness in her life for the rest of her high school career so that she could go on to be a successful adult beyond high school. Since she has lived with us, her grades have drastically improved. During her freshman year, Emma did not pass 3 of her 7 classes. This year, she is passing all of her classes and continues to seek help from the resources available through CHS (the tutoring center, mentoring period, teacher assistance during lunchtime), as well as Jared and I, when she needs the help.

Emma's living arrangement is fully due to academic and personal reasons that directly impact her own success in her future, and have nothing to do with athletics. Emma has not swam prior to this school year as her mother never had the financial stability to be able to allow her to do that.

Jared and I's request is that you allow Emma to compete with the CHS Swim Team this year. By allowing her to compete, it will continue to help Emma strive for self-confidence in every aspect of her life, help to expand her learning endeavours, build healthy habits, and be involved in a team that is dedicated to improvement first before success.

Thank you very much for your careful consideration in this matter. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Cheliss Thayer ~ (530) 363-4619



Jared Thayer ~ (541) 905-4690