



Oregon School Activities Association  
25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1  
Wilsonville, OR 97070

503.682.6722

[www.osaa.org](http://www.osaa.org)

3rd

## Student Eligibility Request Form

Form ID Number  
20150681

### Type of Waiver

Transfer without Change of Joint Residence Hardship Appeal  
OSAA Rule 8.6 - Send directly to District Athletic Committee

Submitted 12/19/2015  
2015-16 School Year

### Columbia Christian High School Information

413 NE 91st  
Portland, OR 97220  
(503) 252-8577

Ami Vensel, Principal  
[avensel@columbiachristian.com](mailto:avensel@columbiachristian.com)  
(503) 252-8577

Jason Housley, Athletic Director  
[jhousley@columbiachristian.com](mailto:jhousley@columbiachristian.com)  
(503) 753-4158

### Student Information

Levi Morris

DOB: 8/5/1998

Age: 17 years 5 months (as of 1/8/16)

#### Current Address

Jeff and Diane  
Parent (Mother/Father)  
10035 se clinton st  
Portland, OR 97266

#### Last Year's Address

Jeff and Diane  
Parent (Mother/Father)  
78900 wolf run rd  
dufur, OR 97021

(971) 352-1356

Attends: Madison High School  
Previous: Dufur High School

Grade: 11

Has IEP? No

Meeting IEP? N/A

### Enrollment Record

SY	GR Period	Dates	School	# Credits Earned	# Classes Passed
2015-16	11 1st Semester	9/8/15 to 12/17/15	Madison High School	3.5	5

**Affirmation Statement**

Under penalty of perjury, I do affirm that no coach, parent, administrator, teacher, or other representative of the current school initiated contact or offered any inducements for the purpose of having the student attend the current school for athletic participation. Further, I authorize release of permanent school records to the Oregon School Activities Association.

**Both signatures are required.**

Parent Signature (or host family)

Principal / Superintendent

**Directions**

Ensure the Affirmation Statement section has both signatures. Send this printed Student Eligibility Request Form and any attached files to your District Athletic Committee. Do not send this to the OSAA office. Keep a copy for your school's records. Allow five business days for your request to be processed. Once a decision is made, the District Athletic Committee will notify your school.

Send a printed version of this form directly to your District Athletic Committee with any other printed attachments.

**District Athletic Committee Decision**

This section is to be filled out by the District Athletic Committee. Once a decision has been made, the committee shall contact the school regarding the outcome and forward a copy of this completed form and any supplemental materials to the OSAA office.

Richard L Wheeler

Chairperson's Name (print)

R Wheeler

Chairperson's Signature

1-6-16

Date

 Approved DeniedSouthwest Christian School

Chairperson's School &amp; Position

Notes:

Turned Down -**Appeals Process**

Appeals of decisions made by the District Athletic Committee are heard by the OSAA Eligibility Appeals Board. Appeals must be requested in writing, or e-mail, and submitted to the OSAA Executive Director.

Any party filing an appeal of a decision made by the District Athletic Committee to the OSAA Eligibility Appeals Board shall be assessed a filing fee of \$100 to defray the costs to the Association of assembling the respective appeals bodies to hear the appeal.

If a waiver is denied by the OSAA Eligibility Appeals Board, an appeal can be made to a Hearings Officer under OSAA Handbook Rule 9, "Hearings Officer." Appeals to the Hearings Officer shall include an appeal fee of \$250.

For additional information, please refer to the OSAA Handbook available at [www.osaa.org/governance/handbooks](http://www.osaa.org/governance/handbooks).

## Kristie Patterson

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**From:** Peter Weber  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 07, 2016 4:01 PM  
**To:** Kristie Patterson; Amerilyn Rivett  
**Subject:** FW: hardship decision

Here is the DAC decision on the Columbia Christian student.

**Peter Weber**, OSAA Assistant Executive Director  
503.682.6722 x231 | [peterw@osaa.org](mailto:peterw@osaa.org)

**From:** Grant Nelson [mailto:[grant\\_nelson@ncchristianschool.com](mailto:grant_nelson@ncchristianschool.com)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 07, 2016 3:16 PM  
**To:** Peter Weber <[peterw@osaa.org](mailto:peterw@osaa.org)>  
**Subject:** hardship decision

Hi Peter,

In response to your phone call, we did deny a hardship from Columbia Christian at our league meeting yesterday. I apologize that you didn't receive the correct paperwork from us for that. It was honestly a very difficult call for us and we had one member vote yes, another vote no and the 3<sup>rd</sup> took some time to decide which way to go. Speaking in solidarity, our reasons were:

- 1) The decision felt pushed upon as we normally have a policy that we send out paperwork a couple of weeks in advance of a hardship meeting and two of the three of us didn't know about the hardship until the meeting.
- 2) We believed that, although the young man was around some bad stuff going on at Madison High School that he possibly could have chosen to hang around with a different, more positive group of young people. We didn't feel he was forced out of the school but rather chose a different school and to us that made the hardship borderline.
- 3) We had questions that weren't answered in the materials we were given that raised enough red flags to tilt the committee to turn down the hardship request.

Let me know if you need more information from me.

Thanks,  
Grant

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Student Name <b>Morris, Levi S.</b>				Portland Public Schools High School Transcript			Madison H.S. 2735 NE 82nd Ave Portland, OR 97220		
Perm ID <b>766783</b>	State ID <b>9206728</b>	Grd <b>11</b>	Gen <b>M</b>	Diploma Type <b>Standard</b>			Phone <b>503-916-5220</b> Fax		
Date Of Birth <b>08/05/1998</b>		Phone <b>971-352-1356</b>							
Home Address <b>10035 SE Clinton St Portland, OR 97266</b>				Graduation Date			Counselor <b>Marquez, Jerardo</b>		

Subject Course Title Mark Cred Cmp			Subject Course Title Mark Cred Cmp			Graduation Requirements			Credit Summary		
<b>Dufur High School</b>			<b>Dufur High School</b>								
Yr: 2013	Month: 10	Grade: 09	Yr: 2014	Month: 6	Grade: 09	Subject Area	Req'd	Compl	Needed		
EL	Intro to Agriculture	B 0.250	LA	Language Arts 9	C 0.250	LA-Language Arts	4.000	2.000	2.000		
EL	Freshman Seminar	B 0.250	MA	Algebra 1	B 0.250	MA-Mathematics	3.000	2.000	1.000		
EL	Math Support 9	P 0.250	PE	Physical Ed	A 0.250	SC-Science	3.000	2.000	1.000		
LA	Language Arts 9	C 0.250	SC	Physical Science	C 0.250	GS-Mod World Hist/Soc Studies	1.000	1.000			
MA	Algebra 1	C 0.250				US-US History/Soc Studies	1.000	0.000	1.000		
PE	Physical Ed	A 0.250				EC-Economics/Soc Studies	0.500	0.000	0.500		
SC	Physical Science	C 0.250				GV-Government/Soc Studies	0.500	0.000	0.500		
		Cred Cmp: 1.750				PE-Physical Ed	1.000	1.000			
		GPA: 2.667				HE-Health	1.000	1.000			
<b>Dufur High School</b>						FA-CTE/Arts/World Lang Yr 3	1.000	0.000	1.000		
Yr: 2014	Month: 1	Grade: 09				WL-World Language	2.000	0.000	2.000		
EL	Freshman Seminar	B 0.250				EL-Elective	6.000	5.000	1.000		
EL	Intro to Agriculture	B 0.250				<b>TOTALS</b>	24.000	14.000	10.000		
EL	Math Support 9	P 0.250									
LA	Language Arts 9	C 0.250									
MA	Algebra 1	C 0.250									
PE	Physical Ed	A 0.250									
SC	Physical Science	C 0.250									
		Cred Cmp: 1.750									
		GPA: 2.667									
<b>Dufur High School</b>											
Yr: 2014	Month: 3	Grade: 09									
EL	Math Support	P 0.250									
EL	Intro to Agriculture	C 0.250									
EL	Freshman Seminar	A 0.250									
LA	Language Arts 9	C 0.250									
MA	Algebra 1	B 0.250									
PE	Physical Ed	A 0.250									
SC	Physical Science	C 0.250									
		Cred Cmp: 1.750									
		GPA: 2.833									
<b>Dufur High School</b>											
Yr: 2014	Month: 6	Grade: 09									
EL	Intro to Agriculture	B 0.250									
EL	Freshman Seminar	A 0.250									
EL	Math Support 9	P 0.250									
		Cred Cmp: 1.750									
		GPA: 2.833									
Continued on next column...											

R = Course Repeated, No Credit.

\* = Course has been Modified

<b>GPA SUMMARY</b>			Course Legend: AP = Advanced Placement-GPA Weighted IB = International Baccalaureate-GPA Weighted			
<u>Unweighted GPA</u>		<u>Weighted GPA</u>				
Cumulative	2.354	Cumulative Wgt	2.354			
				Marks Legend: I = Incomplete P = Passing NP = Not Passing NG = Not Graded WF = Withdrawn with Failing Mark WN = Withdrawn with Not Passing Mark WP = Withdrawn with Passing Mark WX = Withdrawn with No Penalty		
Enter Date 08/27/2015		Ranked By Unweighted GPA				
Class Rank 154 out of 242		Graduation Date				
Class of 2017						12/16/2015
Signature required for official transcripts						Page 1 of 1

OSAA and League Officials,

December 18, 2015

As parents of Levi Morris, we are writing on his behalf, requesting a hardship be granted that would allow him to compete in basketball (and any other sport) for the 2015-2016 school year.

Levi is adopted. His birth mom turned 16 the day before he was born, his birth dad was 17. He is African-American, from Miami. We have had a bit of contact with both birth parents, and Levi went with us to meet them in August of 2014. We believe he had- virtually his whole life- imagined this would turn out in some wonderful way, somehow thinking there was this perfect Florida family waiting for us to give him back. The reality was they had both moved on, both married someone else and had families- had kids they had kept, kids they had not put up for adoption. And we came back to Oregon. Diane and I had known this, had prepped Levi for it, but his imagination kept him from believing us. Anyway, that is what we think might have gone on inside him.

Adopted kids normally have Reactive Attachment Disorder, which Levi was diagnosed with several years ago. We have worked to help Levi understand he is loved by us, and loved by God. He has struggled to feel accepted and loved, more readily feeling rejected and judged. Being the only black youth in the all white rural community of Dufur only made it easier to feel different. While he had friends in Dufur, he always wondered how real the friendship was, too. often sensing that when any racial issues came up he was somehow victimized.

We had long felt we should find a way to put him around other African-Americans, but had never done anything significant about this. This past June we moved to Portland for this purpose, had him participate in a full month of Urban League (a program in North Portland for black youth, designed to help these youth get started on a promising career path), and enrolled him in Madison High School, well known for its racial diversity. He did meet many black youth, made friends with some, and learned how to socialize with those of his race. However, he also found he was in an environment he was not prepared for, one he struggled with mightily. At Madison he was regularly approached with some drug request, pressured to use marijuana or other drugs. It seemed to him just about everyone there used. He smelled it in the restrooms, on other students, thought kids were high all around him.

The small and, to him, oppressive, atmosphere in Dufur was at least safe, but at Madison he did not feel safe. We think he felt he had to be watching out all the time, that no one had his back, especially after he realized that players on the Madison basketball team were not really in his corner. He thought they would become his friends, but instead, from them he felt disrespect, intimidation, and though he would never use this word, maybe even bullied. He had played with them during summer league and fall ball, but then quit basketball soon after tryouts began in November. Watching how he behaved around them, we believe he never felt he could be Levi around them, choosing to mostly be invisible. We don't have this sorted out properly, but just know that he was not ready for all that being in a large city school meant.

Along the way we had him see a therapist to help with this adjustment. One observation of this counselor was that Levi needed basketball opportunities, as that was the one thing he loved and felt good about. We fully agree with this assessment, and grieved when we saw basketball at Madison was not to be. Levi had earlier told us of his fears and struggles at Madison, and had asked to be able to go to a smaller school. We had begun to look at this. Columbia Christian is close to where we live, and virtually across the street from Multnomah University, where his older brother attends. Diane and I met with the principal and family life director, and liked what we saw. We had Levi do a visit, and he liked it as well, feeling accepted and safe. We made the decision to move him as soon as possible, withdrawing him from Madison December 17<sup>th</sup> and enrolling him at Columbia Christian Academy December 18<sup>th</sup>. We are asking that he be granted permission to participate in sports there immediately.

Thank you so much,

Jeff and Diane Morris

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Morris".

Dear OSAA and League Officials,

My name is Levi Morris, and I have just transferred to Columba Christian from Madison high school. I'm writing this letter in hope of being granted eligibility to play basketball this year. At three months I was adopted from Miami, Florida to Dufur, Oregon. I am African American and my adoptive parents are white. I grew up in an essentially all- white town. I often felt different and hated on by a lot of people. In June, we moved to Portland in hope of finding a school with more diversity. We did find diversity which was great, but I guess I was not prepared for going from a small rural school (Dufur High School) to a large city school.

In Dufur, even though I felt like I was separated from kids, I didn't feel physically threatened. At Madison High School, I have never felt more physically and emotionally threatened in my life. I felt like if I had stayed at Madison I would have probably gotten in to some type of drug use because drugs are a normal thing that students do there. Almost daily I was asked either if I had any pills or weed, or if I wanted to smoke any weed. Sometimes they didn't take no for an answer and just kept asking me. My hope was to play on the basketball team at Madison. I was trying out for the team and had played with the players during summer and fall. The school environment wasn't really a good environment in general. While I was at Madison high school a student managed to set the boys bathroom on fire four times forcing all 1000 students to evacuate the school. One of those incidents included a written threat, using the term "ISIS". On another occasion a threat was received of someone coming to the school on a particular day to shoot it up with guns.

I love the game of basketball but constantly having teammates harp on me on the court and give me dirty looks off the court would make me feel lonely and sad. I would try to be the nicest type of person to them but nothing would seem to get them to appreciate or respect me. Not really having a connection with the players made me not even want to play. Not feeling safe in the school made me worried about going there.

In Dufur, being the only black kid in school, basketball was my place to belong, to be of some importance. Maybe that is bent a bit, but it was the one place I could feel a valuable part of something. I had hoped for the same at Madison.

From my first experience in a visit at Columbia Christian I felt able to relax, not have my guard up all the time. I am excited about this new chance at a smaller, safer, kinder school. I hope you allow me to participate in basketball.

Thanks, Levi Morris



## Student Intent to Transfer Certificate

**NOTE:** This form, or its substantial equivalent, must be completed and a copy maintained at the receiving school for inspection at the request of the OSAA prior to the student's affiliation with the school to which the student is transferring. See Rule 8.6.5, "Transfers to a School with Affiliation" outlined on the back of this document.

Name of Student Levi Samuel MORRIS Birth Date 08 105 1998  
Month / Day / Year  
Name of Parents and Address of Joint Residence JEFF & Diane MORRIS  
10035 SE. Clinton St.  
PORTLAND, OR 97266  
School Currently Attending Madison High School City PORTLAND  
School to Which Transferring Columbia Christian City Portland  
Intended Transfer Date 12/18/15

### CERTIFICATION BY PARENT AND STUDENT

Under penalty of perjury, I affirm that no coach, parent, administrator, teacher or other representative of the current school initiated contact or offered any inducements for the purpose of having the student attend the current school for athletic participation. I also affirm that there has been no prior affiliation with the school to which the said student is transferring.

Parent Signature

12/17/15

Date

Student Signature

12/18/15

Date

### CERTIFICATION BY ADMINISTRATOR OF SCHOOL CURRENTLY ATTENDING

I affirm that I am aware of the above student's intent to transfer and the specifics of that transfer stated above.

Signature

Administrator

12-18-15

Date

Signature

Administrator

12-18-15

Date

Signature

Administrator

12-18-15

Date