Theresa Proctor-Reece
210 Boardman Avenue
Boardman, Oregon 97818
December 10, 2015

To Whom It May Concern
Oregon Schools Athletic Association
25200 SW Parkway Ave Suite 1
Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

Dear To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in concern of eligibility for our new English Language Learner student, Boniface Binene. Boniface recently arrived at Riverside High School from Boise, Idaho where he had come as a refuge with his family from Congo, Africa three years ago. At this time, he is ineligible to play basketball because of both poor attendance and grades in his past school due to struggles he had little control over.

After sitting down with Boniface and talking about his goals and interests, I found that he has a real desire to be on the court and that he would do whatever it takes to play ball for the Riverside Pirates. I feel that by allowing him eligibility, we could not only build up his self-esteem, but also open up doors for his future.

Upon arriving to America as a refuge in Boise, Boniface did not initially feel welcomed. He said that he had trouble with a few kids which led him to make some poor choices, with attendance being one. And upon arriving at Riverside, he was surprised at how welcoming the kids were here and felt like this was going to be a good place for him and his family.

As the ELL Coordinator for Riverside High School, I strongly suggest we give him this opportunity to fulfill one of his dreams. He is athletic, kind, and cooperative. He wants to do well. He said that he is willing to work hard. I had a conversation with him today about making positive changes and how I could help him if he was willing to attend school regularly, be tutored and attend the afterschool programs. He said he was willing.

Please consider Boniface Binene eligible for basketball in the Oregon School Activities Association and give him this opportunity to fulfill a dream and build what could be the start to his future.

Sincerely,

Theresa Proctor-Reece
English Language Coordinator, Riverside High School