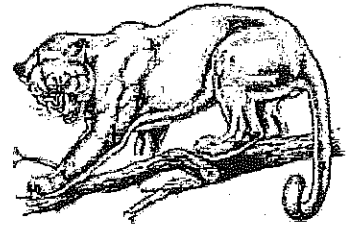


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WALLOWA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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January 12, 2016

Dear OOL Hardship Committee:

Wallowa High School is requesting an eligibility waiver for Samuel Hilliard under the category of transfer without change of joint residence. Sam moved to Wallowa last week from Weiser, Idaho where he had been living with his biological father. He is now living in Wallowa with his biological mother who has been a long time resident of Wallowa. Sam's parents are not married.

The move came about because Sam's father, Robb Hilliard, is experiencing some personal issues that the parents decided it would be best for the kids to not be around. Both Sam and his younger sister moved to Wallowa during Christmas break. Sam loves to play basketball and is requesting to do so not only to help him make friends and adjust to Wallowa, but also because he hopes staying busy will help keep his mind off his father's issues.

Sam is academically on track. He earned 14 credits as a freshman last year (Idaho gives 1 credit per semester class). These credits will be converted to .50 and he will have 7 credits for his freshman year. Sam was passing all of his sophomore classes when he transferred and has adjusted quickly to his new teachers and is doing well with his courses in Wallowa. I have attached his transcript as well as his transfer grade paperwork.

I urge you to approve this waiver. My personal belief is that we should encourage kids to participate in school activities. It seems unfair to punish a student for issues that their parents are experiencing when they have been meeting the academic standards at school.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Beccy Nordtvedt
Principal/AD
Wallowa High School