

Clint & Misty Bellamy
69956 Wilson Ln.
Boardman, OR 97818

January 25, 2016

To who it may concern,

It has been brought to mine and my husband's attention that we must write a letter and ask that a hardship be allowed for our daughter Dakota Durfey to be allowed to play a spring sport at Heppner High since we allowed her to transfer at semester from Riverside High.

We as parents of Dakota have had to listen to our daughter shortly after entering 7th grade at Riverside to be allowed to attend another school. We have felt that she has never been completely happy attending there. I, her mother Misty Bellamy, am employed at Riverside High as the head cook and have been working here for six years. During her time here at Riverside I have been able to see her every day and have enjoyed that opportunity. We as parents have had to tell her no repetitively over the years about transferring. Part of that reasoning is because I work here, the other is selfishness on my part, as I just liked her close.

This year has been different though. As she has matured she has become more adamant about going to a different school and in her words, "any school as long as it is different". This really became a demand from her after she chose not to play basketball this season and we saw the aftermath of that decision and how it affected her. People that she thought were her friends became bitter and took to social media making comments about that decision. This made her want to leave even more.

So after discussing this move we decided that the best thing for Dakota would be to put our selfishness aside and allow her to transfer. We feel her being happy at the place she attends school is the most important thing for her in order for her to have her best chance to succeed. So with that, she has transferred to Heppner High and we have never seen her so excited to wake up and get ready to go to school. She loves the smaller class sizes and the teaching environment there. With this move we hope she becomes more excited about her classes and education and thrives and succeeds.

We as parents ask that she be allowed to play her spring sport this season at Heppner High as it would be important for her to not lose that opportunity for us finally allowing her to pursue her happiness and allowing her to switch schools.

Sincerely,

*Misty Bellamy
Clint Bellamy*

Clint & Misty Bellamy
Parents of Dakota Durfey