



# ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL

Fern Ridge School District 28J

24936 Fir Grove Lane, Elmira, Oregon 97437

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Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Principal

Brian Brands, Asst. Principal/AD

Sarah Schilling, Dean of Students

To: Sky-Em Hardship Committee

Re: Eligibility of Annie Carpenter-9<sup>th</sup> grade Student at EHS.

From: Gary Carpenter, Parent

Date: 1-21-16

I am writing this at the request of EHS Athletic Director Brian Brands in regards to the eligibility of my daughter, Annie Carpenter. I reside in the 4J school District. I currently have a 10<sup>th</sup> grade daughter who attends EHS as a participant in open enrollment, and Annie (my youngest) is now enrolled as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, and has been enrolled since the first tri-meister ended at North Eugene H.S. in early December. All of my kids (I have 3) attended K-8 in the 4J school District. I allowed them all to make the decision on whether or not they wanted to come out to EHS, where I am principal, or continue on at their local school, North Eugene. My oldest, wanted to stay at North and graduated in 2015. My second child, Emillia, wanted to come to EHS, so she participated in open enrollment last year at the start of her 9<sup>th</sup> grade year and continues here. My youngest child debated back and forth over this past summer what she wanted to do, but in the end, decided she wanted to stay at North Eugene. About mid-way through the Volleyball season she made the decision that she wanted to transfer out to Elmira. The primary factor being with the work schedules of both myself, and her mother, she understood it was placing a tremendous hardship on our family having two high school students at different schools who both were active in athletics and clubs.

At that time I began looking into transferring and the potential athletic ramifications. Brian shared it would be an issue to transfer mid-volleyball season (if she wanted to play on our JV volleyball team) since she started at another school. He also shared that it shouldn't be an issue for Spring sports if she enrolled. Apparently that wasn't 100% accurate, hence this hardship process. She would not have transferred had she been aware of this. Her reason for transferring has nothing to do with athletics. She will be a JV track and volleyball athlete, at best, throughout her High School years, this mid-year change was simply something that was in the best interest of our family so that both of our daughters could be at the same High School. Annie is a great student and has no discipline or behavior issues.

Professionally,

Gary E. Carpenter, Jr.

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*The Fern Ridge School District is an equal opportunity educator and employer*