

Smith, Tony

From: Fauna Ell <efauna@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2016 7:54 AM
To: Smith, Tony
Subject: Fwd: Emalee Ell letter

This may not be in the best format please excuse the informality.

Begin forwarded message:

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> To whom it may concern,
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> My name is Emalee Ell, I just started attending Saint Paul High School this last month. As a junior in high school, I've been on a very bumpy road within the past three years. Growing up as a little girl, I knew I always wanted to be a part of something big. I've been involved in many community events and absolutely love working with others. There had been multiple events that have happened in my few high school years that I had no control over. These events will forever haunt me and my life. As a freshman in high school I saw greater hopes in becoming someone important in the community, unfortunately I never got that opportunity. At the beginning of my middle school years, as a sixth grader at Dayton middle school, I was bullied. I never figured out why people were mean to someone like me. I was nice to everybody. All I wanted to do was put a smile on others' faces. I never thought the bullying would carry into high school. Looking at my mother's high school experience I have grown to be quite jealous of all the great memories that she has. Since I was young, I always looked forward to having an experience of high school similar to my mothers. I've been gradually disappointed that I haven't been able to have anything like what she did. I felt as though I was defeated and had no opportunity to be an example student as a student or athlete. After my recent concussion that I sustained, my social life has been getting worse and worse. I've been through a cycle of harsh feelings. Losing a massive amount of positive social interactions, going through multiple stages of depression, and feeling as though there was absolutely nothing I could do right for this world. The current transition to Saint Paul has been the greatest transition I've had yet. I absolutely love the community and see myself being very involved with future community events. The first day that I came to Saint Paul high school, I instantly felt all the weight lifting off my shoulders. Smaller classes, more one-to-one teacher student interactions, positive attitudes all around me, and overall one of the greatest support systems I've had throughout my schooling experience. I've already grown excellent relationships with all my teachers and peers. This transition has definitely helped me for the better. I'm a much happier person and am not so worried about my future. I'm very grateful to say that I will be graduating from Saint Paul high school.
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> -Emalee Ell
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