



Marshall High School

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Thursday, February 25, 2016

To Oregon Schools Activities Association,

We write this letter in support of Sam Archer and his eligibility request. Sam has struggled more in school this year than during his freshman and sophomore years, and we hope to help him reverse this trend. In the meantime, he is requesting eligibility to participate in track and field this spring.

Every fall, the Archer family attends a two-week retreat with their church. In the past, Sam has been able to catch up on the missed work when he returns to school, but this year was different. Whether it was harder course material in junior classes or issues that arose at home is unclear. The outcome, however, was dramatic; Sam was so convinced he could not pass classes that he talked about dropping out of school. With intensive interventions, Sam stayed in school but earned just 0.50 credits.

For second quarter, Sam improved his academic achievement slightly. He still earned failing grades in two classes. Despite modifications to curriculum, Sam's ADHD is interfering with his ability to focus on his schoolwork. His special education case manager and administrator are making some changes to his daily instructional routine in order to provide a support class to help Sam be successful in the second semester of the year.

Sam is intent on building on his small improvement from quarter 1 to quarter 2. With the adjustments to his schedule, the staff feels he will still be on track to graduate, on time, at the end of his senior year. Additionally, Sam has been successful in completing his math IEP goals and continues to work on his reading and writing goals. If Sam can participate in track and field, he will have needed motivation to follow through with his supports and turn his academics around. It is our hope that OSAA will grant Sam eligibility for this spring.

Thank you for your consideration,

Julie Linhares
Principal

Karla Luff-Lopez
Special Education Case Manager