

SOUTH SALEM HIGH SCHOOL
Lara Tiffin, Principal
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Christy Perry, Superintendent

Date: 2/22/2016

To: Tom Welter, Executive Director

From: Brian Armstrong, Athletic Director-South Salem High School

Re: eligibility request

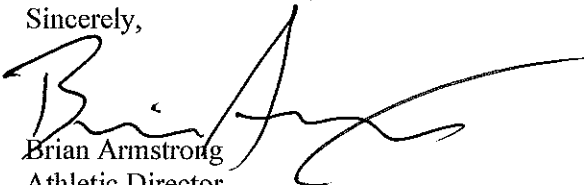
I am writing this letter in support of the attached Eligibility Request Form for Samuel Malik.

Sam is a foreign exchange student who recently enrolled in South Salem at the start of second semester. He is currently living with the Fedor family who have a son that attends South Salem High School as well. The Fedor family and Sam's family back in Slovakia, have known each other since 2002. Sam's host dad (Matthew Fedor) and his stepfather first met professionally and over the years developed a friendship which extended to include each other's family. When Sam made the decision to study abroad, he decided to stay with the Fedor family because he already knows the family and he did not want have to potentially deal with switching host families due to compatibility issues. Sam feels that living with a family he is comfortable with will provide him with something he is familiar with as he navigates a country that is foreign to him.

Like all foreign exchange students, Sam is excited to experience what being a student in the United States is all about. He wants to learn about American culture and most importantly improve his English skills. In addition to his academic goals, Sam would like to maximize his time in America by playing high school tennis. Unfortunately, Sam is currently ineligible to play tennis because he is a direct placement through his foreign exchange program. In my opinion the direct placement of Sam with the Fedor was in no way to gain a competitive advantage. The placement was in the best interest of the student and I ask that you consider granting Sam eligibility so he can take full advantage of his American high school experience.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Brian Armstrong
Athletic Director
South Salem High School