



SOUTH SALEM HIGH SCHOOL
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Christy Perry, Superintendent

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to clarify and express my support of the circumstances surrounding Kendra Smith within the last year.

Kendra has had a lot of personal issues that have impacted her ability to attend and succeed at high school. One of those was her family situation. She has moved all over the state, living in many different homes. This movement caused her to move into and out of school which caused those school to try to figure out how to award credit. For instance, when a student comes with a few weeks left in the semester, we typically do not have them go for .5 credit or they would be guaranteed an F. We usually break it up into .17 or .33 increments. If a student moves enough, it is sometimes suggested that even though they attended, they did not receive credit from those small increments, and that they should start fresh in their next semester.

On top of those circumstances, she had surgery on her back which caused all sorts of movement and issues. In general, it is very understandable that Kendra did not receive credit in her last semester. She did start at South in January but again, with three weeks left, she attended but did not receive credit.

Kendra is a great kid who is really trying to turn her life around. I do recommend that she be able to play sports to get her plugged into our school and give her a sense of belonging, especially with her fragmented family history. She has always been a good student when she has been able to attend and that is why I am willing to advocate for her as her counselor.

Thank You,

Todd Bobeda, M.Ed.
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