

February 29, 2016

To whom it may concern:

Mikayla has been a student at Riddle School District from a very early age until she finished eighth grade. When it came time to enroll this year, she decided to follow in her sister's footsteps, and move in with her dad in Sutherlin, and enroll at Sutherlin High School. She was intrigued by rekindling a family relationship with her father and sister who she wasn't seeing as frequently as she would have liked. She was also excited about enrolling at a larger school with more kids, and more extra-curricular activities. Unfortunately for her the move did not go well. Mikayla quickly struggled to fit in. Her red hair became a target of boys and girls alike who were quick to point out her differences. Instead of dealing with this in a positive manner, Mikayla shut down. She stopped wanting to go to school, and her absences increased. When this happened, she fell behind academically. Mikayla isn't the strongest student and lacks some academic skills that are needed to learn on your own. Due to this deficiency, she never got caught up again, and failed to gain teacher's help to allow her pass her classes. This issue could have been made better if Mikayla had gotten some support at home, but instead, home became a problem as well. Mikayla battled with her step-mom, and her father wasn't home enough to mediate the issues. Ultimately what was supposed to be a great time, had become a lesson in perseverance. She just wanted to get through the semester to be able to go back home to Riddle.

Riddle High School is the best fit for Mikayla. We understand how her mind works, and how best to reach her academically. We are a small school with a decent track record of not letting kids slip through the cracks. The plan for Mikayla is to break her of some of the bad habits she started at Sutherlin (lack of attendance due to bullying), get her to focus on the positives in her life (softball, caring community) and get her back on track. Over the last five weeks, we have already seen a huge improvement in her behavior (coming to school) and grades (passing all classes).

We would like Mikayla to be eligible to participate in softball to continue to motivate her to be the best version of herself. We will continue to monitor her areas of improvement, and if she ever falls behind in them, then we will pull her from softball until she earns it back.

Thank You



Russell Hobson

Riddle High School

Athletic Director