

March 14, 2016

This letter is in reference to my son, Riley King. Riley is a student at Mountain View High School and has been deemed unable to participate in orchestra activities due to his GPA last year. I wanted to write a letter to explain Riley's situation in the Fall of 2014.

Riley had a very tough Fall of 2014. He has suffered from migraines for years and had a very tough time managing them. During a six-month period, Riley was in the Emergency Room four times for migraine infusions and had to endure a spinal tap. To this day we still have not found out the cause of these migraines and have worked with two different Neurologists and a multitude of other doctors to find the cause. His attendance record is included with this letter. If you would like a list of his doctor appointments during this time, please let me know.

On December 6, 2014, Riley's grandfather, passed away. This was a very tough process for him, as they were very close. The night we arrived in Portland, Oregon, to bury him the next day, we received a call from the Bend Police regarding a situation at school. The next day, as we were traveling home, we received MANY calls throughout the day inquiring when we would arrive in town. This heightened Riley's anxiety and frustration, not knowing what they wanted to talk to us about. When we arrived in Bend, the Bend Police met us at our home to talk to Riley about a situation that happened at school. After this conversation, a (pending) suspension was put into

place, not allowing Riley to work on any missing or current work during the suspension. This suspension was one week of school, along with the two weeks we had off for Christmas Break. When Riley returned to school, there were only two weeks left in the semester to fix any of his grades. In addition, we had to visit with Deschutes County Health Services for a psych evaluation on New Years Eve. This meeting he was cleared by the County to go back to school. This situation dragged on much longer than it would have, had it not been during the holiday season.

Thankfully, this suspension was reversed during the second semester, but by then it was too late for him to fix anything from the first semester. After it was cleared, he met with school administrators frequently, which caused him to miss more schoolwork and class time. These absences are not reflected on his attendance profile, due to the fact that he would only miss partial periods, not full periods.

Riley has been seeing a Psychologist since 2011, since being diagnosed with Tourette's syndrome, depression and anxiety. During the Fall/Winter of 2014, his appointments increased with his psychologist. Riley's psychologist felt that he was more distraught from this situation and his grades at school, than the death of his beloved grandfather. If you need a copy of his appointment dates and notes, please let me know, as I am more than happy to get them for you.

Unfortunately, due to the issues outlined above, the effects on his grades and migraines had already impacted him. I am hoping that you are able to reverse your

decision and allow him to participate in orchestra activities. He enjoys playing very much and deserves to go. As his mother, I feel, based on the information above he has already suffered enough. In addition, he has been working with Mountain View High School's counselor, Shanna Nesbitt, to ensure that he is on track to graduate and is working hard to make up any class credits.

Riley is very active in the Central Oregon Youth Orchestra along with the music community in Bend and also has been employed by Bend Park and Recreation District for one year. Before his employment with Bend Park and Recreation District he volunteered during the summer for 20 hours a week, for four years. If you have any additional questions, or would like to discuss this situation, I am available anytime. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Shannon King

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