



SETON LASALLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

In Faith and Charity

February 19, 2019

Outstanding Young Citizen Program
Trib Total Media
210 Wood Street
Tarentum, PA 15084

Dear Members of the Selection Committee:

Please accept this letter of recommendation for **Benjamin Osterhaus**, who is applying for the **Outstanding Young Citizens, Elite Top 100 Scholarship** for seniors. Ben has been an excellent student and leader at Seton LaSalle High School. I first taught Ben his freshman year in Honors Geometry, and again his junior year in Honors Pre-Calculus. Ben left such an impression, that it is an honor to write on his behalf. Over the past four years, I have come to know him as an outstanding student and role model for his peers.

Ben has a genuine appreciation of mathematics as not merely a subject for memorization, but rather, as a logical system that transcends into other areas of study. Ben has a natural analytical ability and an eagerness to learn that exceeds that of his peers. He has excelled in creative problem solving applied to real world applications. Responses to these tasks are sometimes written in narrative form, allowing Ben to exhibit his strong written communication skills.

Leading by example, Ben is a respectful, young man who cares about his studies and helping others. Often, he assists his peers with more difficult math concepts demonstrating his advanced oral expression. For example, he not only helps his peers within the classroom, but also offers to tutor underclassmen. When appropriate, Ben is mature enough to recognize the need for further assistance. Within the classroom, I could always count on Ben to demonstrate a challenging problem at the board, and to lead class instruction.

In addition to being a passionate student, Ben is a well-rounded candidate. While boasting a 5.0 GPA, Ben balances his time effectively between school, service, and extracurricular activities. This demonstrates a strong work ethic. As a volunteer, Ben serves communities in need by completing home projects for those who are unable to own their own. As a talented golfer, Ben volunteers as an assistant golf instructor introducing the game of golf and its inherent values to young people.

Within the mathematics department, Ben is always our “go-to” volunteer for school functions. For example, we hold an 8th grade visitation day each year. During this day, 8th graders tour the school and participate in 30-minute classes of different disciplines. Ben, since his freshman year, has always volunteered and led the 30-minute lesson. Ben’s leadership is one of his strengths, which is why his peers elected him to student council three years at Seton LaSalle. I have witnessed his dedication to our school as he served as Class President his first two years, Student-Body Treasurer his junior year, and again when he reactivated our school’s Future Business Leaders of America Chapter. His passion for student

council, mathematics, service, and sports, as well as his genuine personality make him irreplaceable to our school.

Not only did Ben take initiative to reactivate the Future Business Leaders of America chapter at our school, but has taken ownership and responsibility of the club's success. Being his moderator for the club, I have witnessed firsthand his leadership in organizing events, helping underclassmen, and promote competitions. Being a first time moderator of this club, Ben has been a great asset in assisting me plan a four-day trip to Hershey for the State Conference. He is extremely reliable and I cannot speak more highly of this young man.

From Ben's first day in my class, he demonstrated discipline, hard work and an enthusiasm to learn. It's been a pleasure to watch him and his passion grow within the field of mathematics and business. Ben sees his future development as an adult not only measured by his grades and job, but also from the greater contribution he can make. It makes me very proud to have a student like him.

Ben Osterhaus would make an excellent candidate for the Elite Top 100 Scholarship. I highly recommend him without hesitation. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Courtney Choura
Mathematics Teacher
Future Business Leaders of America Club Moderator
Seton LaSalle High School
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