

Administration • 223 Clever Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136 • (412) 490-6500 • Fax (412) 788-1196 • www.montourschools.com

February 25, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is in reference to scholarship applicant Joshua Heidenreich who is currently enrolled in my Organic Chemistry course. Josh earned an "A" from both AP Chemistry and the University of Pittsburgh College in High School Chemistry. In all this is an impressive feat in itself, since he was a high school sophomore taking a freshman college chemistry course and a junior taking AP Chemistry. I feel that I have enough experience to comment on "Josh" as a person and a student.

I have been impressed with Josh since the beginning of his sophomore year. He has been a motivated student and driven to succeed, balanced with the right amount of confidence. Another observation that I have made in regards to this student is his maturity compared to his peers. He has taken the lead in class and spoken up when needed. He is not afraid to ask questions for clarification. But most of all, he does not shy away from asking for help when he does not understand. He is not concerned about how others view him and is willing to lead by example amongst his classmates. In turn, his classmates look to him for assistance in group work. He is always willing to give his interpretation of problem solving and is always encouraged to contribute to the class discussion. His enthusiasm is contagious and students truly appreciate his insights. Along the way, I encourage him to speak up- even when he explains his initial misconceptions. Josh is not afraid to let others learn from his mistakes as well. I think that's when I truly appreciate his input the most. In all, I have witnessed a young man that has flourished in a nurturing environment and has learned to take advantage of all that is offered. Josh has grown as a student and as a person; I have watched him mature over these last years and appreciate the student he has become.

Josh has undergone the transformation from a good student to a great student. He has honed in on how to study more efficiently and make the most of his efforts. Couple this with his high intellectual ability and his innate curiosity, and it is understandable why this student was so successful in the college level class, AP Chemistry and now in Organic Chemistry. However, it is his intellectual curiosity that I appreciate the most. We both have a love of health and the human body. Frequently, when we are discussing Chemistry concepts, we will relate it to the practice of medicine. In turn, students' curiosities are piqued in regards to their health.

And finally, I think that Josh's personality makes him unique amongst his peers. He has a maturity about him and stands out amongst his classmates in this way. When I first started teaching Josh, he struggled the same as the others. But even more so, he was always there to offer a helping hand to those in need. In the end, all the students in his class earned C grades and above, with his class having the highest average of all three. I attribute this to his character integrity and moral courage. He was instrumental in other students gaining the confidence to continue participation in the college course.

I cannot say enough about this young man and all that he has accomplished since I have become acquainted with him in his short academic career. He has demonstrated the capacity to handle such a large quantity of complex information with ease. And, Joshua understands the importance of working together as a group for better success. I have no doubt that Joshua Heidenreich will do what it takes to be successful on the college level and encourage others to do the same. In my opinion, awarding the scholarship to Josh to help him accomplish his future goals would be an excellent investment in the future. If there are any questions regarding Joshua Heidenreich and his accomplishments and abilities, please call (412)490-6500 ext.1321 or email frankt@montourschools.com. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

ristractore