

Yalonda Colbert, Principal

Maisha Johnson

Assistant Principal High School

Ashanti Jones

Assistant Principal Middle School

Pittsburgh Obama 6-12

An International Baccalaureate
World School

Phone: 412-529-5980

Parent Hotline:

412-529-HELP (4357)

To whom it may concern,

My name is Joe Ehman and I am the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Coordinator at Obama Academy in Pittsburgh, and I am writing this letter to recommend a truly outstanding student Cecil Price III. I have known Cecil for the past four years, as a powerful student voice and leader, but have had the amazing opportunity of get to know him on a personal level as his IB film teacher (for the past two years), as the Youth and Government Club sponsor (he is a student leader at the club and state level), and finally as his class advisor (Cecil is our senior class President).

As a student Cecil is the kind of scholar that any teacher would love to have in their class. He always does exemplary work, and leads class discussion whenever he is presented the opportunity. Cecil is currently on track to become one of our schools valedictorians. The class of 2020 is one of the most incredible and competitive groups of students that I have ever witnessed as an educator, and Cecil is at the top of this truly impressive group of students. His standardized test scores are not what Cecil would like for them to be, and he is a bit uncomfortable with his results. Cecil's SAT scores do not match the work that I have seen from him in class. Cecil's academic accomplishments may seem a bit muddled on paper, because he has an outstanding GPA and is always pushing himself to be the best and at the top of his class, but his SAT score is only slightly above average. I can firmly and confidently say that Cecil is more than his SAT score. He is an amazing student whose work ethic and intelligence makes him what he is. Please make sure that you look at Cecil's body of school work, it is truly impressive and should say all that you need to know about his academic ability.

I am the Junior and Senior class advisor, so I work closely with the class officers. Cecil is the class of 2020 President and it has been a pleasure watching him work and interact with his fellow classmates. Over the years many (if not most) of the students that hold office do so to bulk up their resume and are excited to get the position, but not necessarily to do the work. Cecil is so enthusiastic that I sometimes have to reign him in and remind him that he is still a student. Cecil's passion is recognized by his peers and is greatly appreciated by me. Cecil wants to serve his classmates and make the school into the best place it can be. He is an amazing class president and will take his skill and passion with him to make whatever college is lucky enough to have him better as well.

Cecil is also the President for the AACAS (African American Center for Advanced Studies) for our entire school district. The AACAS meets once monthly and is comprised of all African American students in Pittsburgh Public Schools who are classified as Gifted and Talented. As

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president, Cecil has tried to expand the reach of the AACAS program to attract more students and to become more visible in the district. He is doing an exemplary job with his work as AACAS president, and is thinking and working in unique ways to reach out to broaden his group's footprint in our district.

I give Cecil Price my highest recommendation. He is a hardworking, intelligent, dedicated, and all around amazing person. I trust Cecil to lead his fellow classmates and to set an amazing example for all students. Cecil has made Obama Academy a better place, and will continue his work in college and beyond. Cecil is an asset to Obama Academy and will be truly missed by the school, and by me personally. I have had the opportunity to get to know Cecil over these past two years, and will miss our conversations and his contributions to our school. Please give Cecil careful consideration, once you meet him you will immediately understand why I speak so highly of him, and what makes him such an amazing student!

Sincerely,

JOE EHMAN

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