



**THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL**

830 OLD CLAIRTON ROAD  
JEFFERSON HILLS, PA 15025  
PHONE: 412-655-8610  
FAX: 412-655-8618  
[www.wjhsd.net](http://www.wjhsd.net)

---

**WEST ELIZABETH - JEFFERSON HILLS - PLEASANT HILLS**

PETE MURPHY  
*Principal*

PAUL WARE  
*Assistant Principal*

ADAM KNARESBOROUGH  
*Assistant Principal*

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to write this recommendation for McKechnie "Mac" Duda, a student in his senior year at Thomas Jefferson High School. I have gotten to know Mac over the past few years as his high school principal, and it has been evident to me from the very beginning that he is an extremely impressive young man.

While he may be very large in stature as an offensive tackle on the football field, he is just as big in the areas of heart and character. He is a star in the academic setting: a perfect balance of natural intelligence and the drive to work hard and take on academic challenges. He also is incredibly mature for his age and treats all others with dignity and respect, regardless of who they are or where they come from. With this combination of personal qualities, it was truly no surprise to anyone that Mac was being recruited by so many Ivy league and Tier 1 post-secondary institutions.

Mac's ability to serve as a role model and a representative of our school has granted him the opportunity to serve as a senior ambassador this year for our brand new state-of-the-art school. As an ambassador, he meets with and gives tours to new students, educators from other districts, business and community members, and other important people who come to the school.

Mac was also recognized outside of the district as he won the Extra Effort award through the Pittsburgh news station, KDKA. This award was given to Mac due to the combination of his academic excellence, athletic dominance, and dedication to community service in working with kids with down syndrome.

In closing, it is my hope that you will consider Mac Duda for your scholarship. In recent weeks, his selection to the Big 33 All Star game speaks of his on field talent while his acceptance to Princeton University echoes his remarkable achievement in the classroom. He would make an exemplary representative of your award.

Sincerely,

Erin Yeager  
School Counselor