



GREENSBURG SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To whom it may concern,

It is a great pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Madison Rugh. I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Madison for the past four years in my capacity as one of her gifted coordinators, as well as her Mock Trial teacher and coach. She is one of the most exceptional students I have encountered in my sixteen years of teaching. Her advanced skills in academics, leadership, debate, and the arts make her an ideal candidate for any Scholarship.

Madison is a quick learner with advanced reasoning skills and a high aptitude for math, science, and language arts. In addition, she also has superior dance talent and is an intrinsically motivated individual with a drive to succeed and to be challenged. She maintains a 4.0 GPA, and she is also a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist. While these skills and talents are impressive, the distinguishing characteristics that set Madison apart from many other students is her calm demeanor, kindness, and her flexible personality that has made her an asset and leader in every cooperative setting. My first encounter with Madison was as her gifted teacher at the high school when she was only in 9th grade and accelerating to honors English 10. This experience placed her in a setting where she had to work with peers older than her and she gained a social maturity as a base for her now, advanced leadership capabilities.

Another encounter with Madison was coaching her on the Mock Trial team where she was one of two sophomores to make the competitive team comprised mostly of seniors. She was not afraid to join a team of upperclassmen and to take on tasks that included research, writing, and speaking. If the team was posed with problems in the case development, Madison took the initiative to identify solutions and communicate the information to the team. She was always willing to take on any task no matter how undesirable, and when the team made it to regional finals, she handled the pressure with ease and confidence. Madison demonstrates great perseverance. Throughout her three years in the Mock Trial class and as a competitive team member, she has overcome many challenges and has independently learned many new concepts and skills in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. She is also a tremendous mentor for students new to Mock Trial. She has great patience and kindness that allow her to teach others the many complexities of Mock Trial and debate.

Beyond her academic accomplishments, Madison also participates in extracurricular activities. She plays soccer, dances, volunteers at various locations, and holds a part-time job. She is also a member of the Mock Trial team, The Interact Club, The Gifted Enrichment Club, The National Speech and Debate Association, and The National Honor Society. While participating in these activities and organizations is impressive in its own right, Madison has earned various awards and recognitions through her participation in these activities. She won outstanding attorney and best opening statement at a Mock Trial public speaking competition. Her Mock Trial team took first at The Blue and White Courtroom Classic at Penn State University and she was also chosen to represent our school at the Hoby Leadership Conference. With her involvement and successes in such activities, Madison has demonstrated an enthusiastic, resourceful, compassionate, and confident disposition. She is driven and confident, yet humble and sincere. I am impressed with Madison's ability to work with any personality and her continued efforts in helping in any way possible.

Madison is a determined, dependable, self-motivated student who supports the betterment of a team, school, and community. She was a pleasure to work with at the high school level. Madison is more than deserving and I highly recommend her for this scholarship.

Thank you,

Kristen Solomon
Greensburg Salem High School Teacher

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