

Vincentian Academy
Dept. of World Languages
8100 McKnight Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
September 8, 2019

Dear Sir and/or Madame:

I have had the pleasure of knowing Megan Hoelke for the past three years. During this time, she has been enrolled in my French II, IB French III, and IB French IV classes, and she has also been an active member of the French Club. Furthermore, for the past three years, Megan has been a member of a small group of students who I meet with and mentor on a regular basis. There is no doubt in my mind that she will be an excellent addition to your program.

The first words that come to mind to describe Megan are focused and self-driven. She is, without a doubt, one of the most energetic and determined students that I have ever taught in my forty-four year teaching career. In French class, she works diligently in order to master the four communication skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Megan is the first to admit that speaking French does not come easily for her, yet this never deters her from being a self-guided and independent learner. When other students are experiencing difficulties, or need to select a partner, Megan is always their first choice.

Megan had the opportunity to travel to France this past summer with the French Club, but instead, she chose to devote herself to the Soles4Souls organization, and traveled to Costa Rica on her second mission trip for this organization. Megan has been involved with Soles4Souls for several years, and her enthusiasm for this international mission led her to become the very first intern, where she was charged with developing and implementing a strategy to involve local businesses in the program to combat poverty at the international level, create sustainable jobs, and distribute new shoes. Because of this involvement, Megan has become much more diligent in using her time and talents to reach out and help others, through our school, her church, and the local community. I was personally disappointed that Megan did not join us on the trip to France, but thoroughly impressed that she instead chose to travel to a developing nation and reach out to the students there.

Megan is also involved in numerous activities at Vincentian Academy that help to make her a very well-rounded individual. She has played competitive sports for years, and has been a member of our championship basketball team for the past three years. She exemplifies the best that any athlete could be, and has found the delicate balance between her athletic endeavors and academic pursuits. Megan is also involved in Campus Ministry, The Royal Ambassadors, and is an active member of The National Honor Society. She received the Presidential Service Award for devoting over 150 hours to service in 2017 – 2018, and also received the A+ Award in every class for the past two years.

Megan is one of the most well-rounded young women I have taught. Megan continually pushes herself beyond her own limits as she works toward her goals in all areas of life. The most important characteristics that will make Megan an excellent addition to your program are her unbridled enthusiasm, her willingness to take risks, and her eagerness to work diligently for the betterment of those around her. She is not afraid to state her own personal viewpoints, yet, at the same time, is more than willing to consider and explore the perspective of others. Her interpersonal skills are highly developed, for she has learned the significance of group work and collective decision-making. I recommend her highly, with no reservations whatsoever, eager to see how she continues to use her talents and enthusiasm as she continues her education.

Sincerely,

Cynthia T. Goldbach
French Teacher
Vincentian Academy

