February 28, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my distinct privilege to be writing to you in regards to my student, Ms Olivia Steeley, as she applies for your scholarship. I have known Ms. Steeley for the past 3 academic years, both in my English course and in my American Sign Language club and I can say without hesitation she is one of the most dedicated, passionate, hard working, and capable students I have had in my tenure. I can assure that in her future, Olivia will continue to excel in her academics and will become a dynamic scientist that will make a positive impact on her community.

In the classroom, Olivia is dedicated to her studies. Ms. Steeley mainted an A average in my honors English 10 course. She has gone on to a rigorous schedule of AP courses where she pushes herself to excel. Olivia is incredibly organized, punctual, and dedicated to her studies. When she is assigned a task she is focused and demonstrates a high level of comprehension, analysis, and writing skills in her assignment. Olivia is a talented writer, both creatively and in formal settings. She understands nuances of the English language and demonstrates them effortlessly in her work. Not only is she a gifted writer, but a critical reader. She is able to take high levels of text and comprehend, analyze, and discuss their literary merit and capabilities. She has a passion for learning and it is evident in her grades, attitudes, and projects. Ms Steeley has maintained 4.0 GPA throughout her tenure at Hempfield. She has been praised for her academic achievements by being a member of the National Honor Society and Science National Honor Society. Olivia has been honored with many prestigious awards including being a member of the Westinghouse Honors Institute, being an All-American Cheerleader, completing the The Lake Erie School of Osteopathic Medicine Summer Academy of Science and Health Program, being a member of The University of Dayton Women in Engineering Program, and receiving the 2018 Outstanding Young Citizen Award from the Tribune Review. Her time, effort, and dedication to her education is certainly one to admire.

Not only is Ms. Steeley a dedicated student in the classroom, she is also actively involved in serving her community and growing as well rounded individual outside of the classroom. Olivia has been the President of our United Spartans club, which works to better our school community since its inception. She is a driving force behind the success of the club. She also serves as the Voter Registration Director for our school, and the Communication Director of our S.T.E.M. program. Olivia is active in the Hempfield Enrichment Program, peer tutoring, Interact Club, French club and is a member of our American Sign Language club. Olivia is compassionate to others and works tirelessly to help those in need. She understands that for herself to succeed she must first help others, an admirable quality that I wish more students had. She is incredibly giving of her time, having volunteered for over 300+ hours of community service, yet still manages to maintain high grades and ethics. Outside of her community service, Olivia is also an active member of our varsity cheerleading squad and varsity soccer team, as well as being the dance captain for our school’s musical.She is a natural team member that students gravitate to because of her poise, calm under pressure attitude, and dedicated personality.

There is no doubt in my mind that Olivia Steeley will go on to do amazing things in her career. She is not only incredibly gifted, but she is a student who displays compassion, creativity, and maturity. I have been honored to have her as a student, and she will certainly leave a mark on our district after graduation. She will be an excellent addition to any institution, and I know after you review her transcripts, references, and academic merritts, you will see that she is a tremendous candidate for your scholarship as well. Should you have any specific questions regarding her qualifications or background, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your time in considering my student, Olivia Steeley, for your scholarship.

Yours truly,

Katie Kertoy 724-834-9000

Hempfield Area High School kertoyk@hasdpa.net