



WEST ELIZABETH - JEFFERSON HILLS - PLEASANT HILLS

THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

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To Whom It May Concern:

It is my sincere pleasure to write this recommendation on behalf of Miss Julia Micklo's application for the Trib. Outstanding Young Citizen Scholarship. Miss Micklo is an extremely motivated, intelligent, accomplished, and talented young woman. When it comes to writing letters of recommendation, no adjectives can adequately describe the principles and positive attributes that she displays in all aspects of her life.

I had the privilege of working with Julia in my Advanced Placement English Language and Composition course and my Introduction to Public Relations course. AP English is a challenging class that requires students to read and analyze 18-20th century American literature as well as develop an academic writing style that employs the techniques of persuasive rhetoric. During the school year, she read numerous American novels, historical documents, and literary criticisms. Additionally, she completed a successful research project, composed sophisticated academic essays, and regularly led discussions during our Socratic seminars. Overall, Julia was one of my *strongest and brightest* students during the 2017-18 school year.

I have known Julia for four years during which time she has impressed me with her dedication to academic and personal success. Her commitment to academics has earned her membership in the National Honor Society. During her high school tenure, she has consistently challenged herself, enrolling in multiple Advanced Placement and honors courses as both a junior and a senior. She has flourished in the Advanced Placement environment, especially in her performance as a critical thinker and writer. Julia's outstanding performance in my class attests to her intellect and academic prowess. She is an ideal student who truly loves learning. I am sure she will maintain academic excellence in the collegiate environment.

In addition to Julia's academic endeavors, she is also very active in our school and community. She participates in a variety of school organizations including: Interact club, STEM club, varsity volleyball, majorettes, Student Council, AP Humanities club, and musical theater. Outside of school, our local community benefits from Julia's altruistic nature. She volunteers at the Food Bank, the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and St. Thomas A'Becket Parish. Additionally, Julia is a team leader at the Jefferson Hills Library summer reading camp. As part of the gifted education program at TJ, Julia has participated in numerous academic field trips, competitions, and professional opportunities including: Eco Challenge, CalcuSolve, History bowl, Science bowl, AIU/STEAM showcase, and Future Problem Solvers state competition. Despite this hectic schedule, Julia still managed to hold a part-time job at Handel's Ice Cream and participated in travel/club volleyball. Julia's impressive ability to balance her difficult classes with extra-curricular activities, leadership roles, and volunteerism efforts exemplifies her maturity, tenacious work ethic, and ambitious personality.

I can honestly say that Miss Julia Micklo is one of the *most impressive* young women I have come across in my teaching career. I am extremely confident that she will achieve great success in her future. Therefore, I enthusiastically provide her with my *strongest* recommendation for the Trib. Outstanding Young Citizen Scholarship.

Sincerely,

Lauren N. Kaszonyi, National Board Certified Teacher (LKaszonyi@wjhsd.net; 412-655-8610 x 6255)
B.S. and B.A. - The Pennsylvania State University; M.Ed. - The University of Pittsburgh