



SOUTH TAHOE HIGH SCHOOL

Home of the Vikings

October 1, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of, a senior at South Tahoe High School. I have known for the past four years as her high school counselor and as one of her dance teachers. is hands down one of the greatest students I have worked with in my fifteen years in education.

If you were to meet ..., you would see a positive, motivated, independent young woman, and while all of that is true, ... life has not been so rosy. is a twin to her sister, Ronnie, who qualified for special education with her primary eligibility being her diagnosis on the autism spectrum along with a speech and language impairment. Two years later, ... younger sister was born with a kidney defect, causing her to be in and out of UC Davis Medical Center on a regular basis. Though doctors told her family that her sister would most likely grow out of her kidney issue, last year at the age of fifteen, she had two significant hospital stays because of her kidney defect. Her sister has also been a member of our school's ALLY club as she is trying to navigate her identity issues in terms of her gender. When was twelve, her father suddenly passed away from a heart attack. mother struggled significantly with the loss, and a large portion of the parenting role fell onto Phoebe's shoulders. was often alone with her sisters, in charge of taking care of them, making meals, and putting them to bed. She was forced to take on adult responsibilities while trying to manage the ins and outs of the confusing middle school years and grieving the loss of her father.

In spite of all that has gone through, she is currently ranked in the top 10% of her class and has a 4.18 GPA having taken two pre-AP classes, one AP course, English 101 and three honors classes, never earning anything lower than a singular B+. While maintaining her exemplary GPA, has been dancing at our local dance studio for twelve years, often accruing over ten hours of classes and rehearsals per week. She participated in two high school musicals, has worked at Aloha Ice Cream for the past three years, began teaching two dance classes per week this year, has danced for the STHS varsity dance team all four years of high school (and practices are before school at 6:30 AM!), and has been babysitting and nannying for various families throughout our community. On top of all of this, earned a scholarship through the Lake Tahoe Educational Foundation for serving as a mentor in an inaugural "Connect, Engage, Succeed" program for elementary and middle school aged students struggling with distance learning during Covid 19. This program required her to participate in a mentoring training program through Lake Tahoe Community College. Upon graduation, is attending Emerson College where she will study psychology or political science!

In my opinion, it doesn't get better than I could use a hundred adjectives to describe her and they would still fall short. Few would be able to persevere the way in which this bright young woman has and will continue to do so. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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