



Sharon High School

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Jose Libano, Principal
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Robert Pomer, Dean of Academic Affairs
Nicholas Schlierf, Athletic Director

October 9, 2018

Dear Admissions Officer:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Miguel von Fedak, a candidate for admission to your school. I have been fortunate to teach Miguel twice. He was an outstanding reader and writer in both my Freshmen English class and my 2017-18 English III Honors class—an advanced junior American Literature survey course. Miguel is an engaged, bright, hardworking, and motivated student who is a pleasure to know.

During his year of study in my classes in both ninth and eleventh grade, Miguel showed himself to be a frequent and confident voice in class, often taking a leadership role in Socratic Seminars and more traditional class discussions. It was a pleasure to see his critical thinking and eloquent speaking skills develop in his junior year, as he consistently came to class eager to discuss his ideas about a short story or novel. In fact, his complex analysis and well-supported opinions often guided his classmates to new and deeper understandings of literature. In addition, I distinctly remember Miguel's performance as Reverend Hale from *The Crucible* as the class acted out a pivotal courtroom scene. He committed to the role, bringing the character and text to life and inspiring his classmates to step out of their comfort zones and follow his lead. His positive energy was contagious, and, on a daily basis, he enlivened our classroom community with his enthusiasm.

Miguel's passion for literary analysis and course concepts was also showcased in his analytical and creative writing skills. During our year of study, Miguel excelled in his ability to succeed in "out of the box" creative assignments, such as writing an original short story in the style of William Faulkner. Additionally, he improved in his ability to synthesize complex, varied information as well as multiple sources into clear, precise prose. Due to his commitment and willingness to revise his work and meet with me for suggestions and advice, Miguel's expository writing reached impressive levels of sophistication over the course of the year. In the final research-based literary project of the term, Miguel conducted an in-depth study of Seamus Heaney's work; he analyzed Heaney's poetry, researched his biography, and read a variety of literary analyses of his writing. This project not only illustrated Miguel's abilities to synthesize multiple texts into precise prose and analyze literature with sophistication--- it also exemplified his willingness to make personal connections to text as he deepened his thinking about his relationship to his own ethnicity and heritage. Many students write well-written papers, but few allow the task to become a process of gaining insight into oneself. Miguel's work was very impressive.

In addition to Miguel's excellent writing and speaking skills, he has a deep commitment to his education and his academic growth. He is a pleasure to talk with, to teach and to know. Elsewhere in his application materials, you will see that he is a leader and participant in a myriad of activities at Sharon High School. I have no doubt that Miguel will succeed in any endeavor he chooses to pursue, and I am happy to recommend him with enthusiasm and without reservation. He is bound for many great successes.

Sincerely,
Lori Novick-Carson
English Teacher
Sharon High School
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Vision, Mission, and Core Values

Sharon High School strives to be a respectful, caring, dynamic, and inspirational learning community.
We offer our students the academic, civic, and social tools to be informed, thoughtful, and effective contributors to a globally connected world.

Perseverance ~ Responsibility ~ Integrity ~ Dedication ~ Excellence

Sharon Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of age color disability gender identity homelessness national origin race religion sex or sexual orientation

