



Sharon High School

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June 30th, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

Sincere, driven and eager to make consistent strides in her learning, Sophia Fein is a memorable student in my Honors Spanish IV class. A young woman that is so much more than meets the eye. From her never quit attitude, her commitment to community service and her genuine interactions with peers I was consistently impressed.

This past academic year was my first year teaching the Honors Spanish IV class at Sharon High. I knew it would be challenging, as my curriculum partners and myself took on the task of rewriting the curriculum. I can say that Sophia is an individual that made all that hard work worth it. She entered the class daily with a smile from ear to ear and an eagerness to take part in the task for the day. She did so with a sincerity that demonstrated appreciation for what was happening in the classroom. At the beginning of the year she lacked confidence and I remember the day she came to see me to express her anxiety about how the year might go. We talked for quite a long time and I remember being so impressed with her sincerity and commitment to her studies. Her motivation to do so was not to try to guarantee herself an A in the class but to truly learn how she could improve her ability to acquire the language. I remember shortly after this encounter the class entered the lab to do a significant speaking assessment. I saved Sophia's recording till last to grade. I was afraid that she would not have demonstrated the progress that she so much desired. I thought that I would have to give her a grade that may disappoint her after all her hard work. When it finally came time to listen, I was so happy and relieved to listen to the progress and confidence with which she spoke. In fact, I chose to listen to the recording many more times than was required to grade it.

During the same conversation mentioned above, Sophia spoke to me about her anxiety about participating and allowing her classmates to hear her speak Spanish. She was afraid that she would make a mistake in front of her peers (it was a class full of the top junior students). What I saw throughout the year was a young woman who walked into the classroom in August as a shy and unsure student and who walked out in June the complete opposite. She learned a valuable lesson this year. This lesson had nothing to do with the Spanish language but had everything to do with the importance of putting yourself out there, taking chances, not worrying so much about what others think of you. In an evaluation she completed for me she even noted her mindset changed, she states, "I go into Spanish with a completely different mindset and without constantly worrying about being called on." Sophia demonstrated a tremendous amount of growth to which she deserves all the credit.

It has been an honor to teach Sophia in my Honors Spanish IV class this year. I know you will be equally as impressed with the quality student she is. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Abigail Theberge

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.