

Nicholas Stamm 24 Horizons Rd  
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April 14, 2019

Dear Michael C. Rothberg Memorial Scholarship Committee:

I am writing to recommend Nick Stamm for the Michael C. Rothberg Memorial Scholarship. I have known Nick since his sophomore year, when he was my student in honors economics – and since then, he took AP economics (micro and macro) with me, and as a senior completed a successful independent study of introductory financial modeling. Nick is both free-thinking and quick-thinking, is insightful, industrious, organized, kind, and even polite. He is among the most complete, strongest candidates I have ever had the joy of teaching.

Academically, Nick is exceptionally strong. His tremendous performance (A+ on average) is supported by an impressive work ethic and organizational system. Nick starts work promptly, checks in early, has good questions days before projects are due, and takes pride in his work – not in the grade, although he should be proud of that too, but in the work itself – he wants to do work that he thinks is good. And he holds himself to a very high standard. After the AP exams last spring (Nick earned 5s on both AP Microeconomics and AP Macroeconomics, as I – and probably he – expected) the juniors did in-depth research projects as culminating experiences. Nick presented a review of the peer-to-peer model and its role in 21<sup>st</sup> century business, highlighting what he saw as potential future applications and forecasting how current businesses would likely need to adapt (or die) as the technology continues to evolve. His thorough, smooth, and thought-provoking presentation set an impressive example that his classmates struggled to follow.

The few times that Nick found himself unsure or confused, he was quick to ask questions. Nick's questions tended to be because he saw the economic concept as inconsistent with his observations of the world around him and wanted clarity. The most impressive part about Nick's frequent questions, though, is that he's mature enough to ask – often strong students are too proud, or see asking for help as a weakness, and need to learn to seek help – Nick already is comfortable asking for help, and I imagine that he will build great relationships with his future professors, mentors, and colleagues.

Beyond his performance and maturity, Nick is respectful and kind. When classmates ask him for help, he is generous and supportive. When classmates make mistakes, Nick politely helps them, without condescension. He seeks partnership with others, to improve understanding and to enjoy learning together.

Choose Nick. Of all the students I have taught, he might be the very best.

Sincerely,



Thomas Sanborn  
Social Studies  
Sharon High School