



SHARON HIGH SCHOOL

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School Counselor Letter of Recommendation for Eugene Oh

Eugene Oh is tremendous. Stellar academically, charismatic, poised, with a love of writing, and an ancient Rome, he has become an engaged and curious citizen of the high school and global communities. Eugene is well-read, making time for at least one book beyond the curriculum each month, and devouring the *New York Times* editorials on a daily basis. There is little that he cannot do, or is not interested in trying, and he will engage fully in the opportunities of whatever school he enrolls at.

While always on track to impress, the extraordinary young man that Eugene has become is very different than the one he seemed about to be just two years ago. Eugene swam competitively from his earliest years. Racing for a competitive club team, spending nearly 5 hours per day including travel time, Eugene was focused. Qualifying for national competitions, he was planning on being recruited and swimming at the college level. He credits his phenomenal organization skills to being a necessary development to get his work done within the time constraints. Although an excellent student, his swimming commitments came first and limited his engagement with the school extracurricularly (although an A+ latin student in grade 9, Eugene missed the National Latin exam that year because of a swim meet). Eugene thrived on the competition and activity of swimming. Perhaps as a result of his relentless drive, in 10th grade he suffered a stress fracture in his back; ending his swimming career and preventing him from playing competitive sports to this day.

This setback was a physical and emotional blow, and it took time for Eugene to recover physically and emotionally from losing one of the favorite aspects of his life. However, he is grateful for what he has learned about empathy, patience and perseverance, and for the ability to fully awaken his inner desire to learn and connect to community. As he recovered, Eugene invested more fully in Latin Club, loving both the Latin, but also the friends he made among club members. He was elected president for senior year. Additionally, he was selected to the Foreign Language Honor Society, and then elected president of that as well, following a speech to his peers. And Eugene has not abandoned swimming all together. Though he can no longer race, he has served as a coach and lifeguard for the Sandwich Sharks ever since his injury. This is a special olympics team that trains on Cape Cod (about an hour away) and Eugene makes the trip down each weekend to lead practices, and go with the team to various competitions.

Academically, Eugene has always excelled. Enrolled in a rigorous program of study in a highly competitive high school environment, he has become one of the very top students in the school. He has earned an A or an A+ in each course he has taken since 9th grade (rare), and has taken Honors at every opportunity. The class he had the most trouble with he took in 11th grade, AP US History. His first AP class, he found the pace fast, the work complex. And then he adapted. He got an A+. His favorite classes have been Latin and Chemistry, taking Latin each year, and Chemistry twice (Honors and AP). His final year of high school is set up to be the finishing touch on his blazing path. He has enrolled in 5 AP Classes, and Honors Latin IV through UMass Boston, and is on track to succeed once again.

Eugene thrives on being busy and would not have it any other way. To replace the 5 hours of daily swimming he discovered the depths of his school community, but he also knows how to maintain his boundaries. 1-2 hours is devoted

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

to a workout. He finds the time for fishing, and to deep dive on podcasts about Ancient Greece or Rome. He is interested in medicine, mentioning sports medicine and orthopedics, and he is interested and entrepreneurship, and I know he has the skill and balance to explore both with his life. Eugene's resilience and positive outlook have astounded me, and I know he will do great things. I cannot say enough on his behalf, and I highly recommend him to you!

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Baltera
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