



# Sharon High School

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Jose Libano, Principal  
Elizabeth Gavin, Assistant Principal  
Jennifer Graveline, Special Education Administrator

Robert Pomer, Dean of Academic Affairs  
Nicholas Schlierf, Athletic Director

## Recommendation for Rachel Shatz DOB 02/20/2001

Rachel stands out from her peers in her total attitude toward life. “Rachel is all personality!” is the consistent praise I hear from her teachers this year. Confident, positive, candid, and outgoing, Rachel enjoys the company of friends and has a kind word for everyone she meets. During this time of year when tensions are high with seniors who are overwhelmed with the college application process, Rachel has been relaxed and with a clear eyed view of what is important and what is trivial. She views life through a positive lens, having been raised by her mother who Rachel endlessly applauds as her “rock”, mentor, and her inspiration throughout her life. Rachel has never dwelled on the difficult circumstances of her parents’ divorce and that she has very little (if any) communication with her father. Rachel is realistic and action oriented in her decision making for the present and for her future. **“My plan is to go to a college that is right for ME (not anyone else) - to not be overly concerned about the opinions of others. I know wherever I go I will be happy!” is what Rachel shared with me earlier this fall. I would be remiss if I also didn’t mention that** Rachel also extremely dependable. She is focused on getting the “job” done right, and she makes it happen! It is therefore with good reason that the Senior Class Planning Board and our Administration specifically selected Rachel to co-host our school’s annual Halloween assembly this year. Rachel’s endless enthusiasm and her dynamic presentation not only captivated our school audience of nearly 1100 students (not including faculty and staff), she “stole the show” with her fun-loving, quick sense of humor! Rachel considers herself a “quiet” leader despite her outgoing personality. She does not seek center stage, however her comfort level with people and her natural facility to be organized and to follow through with any task with utmost competence, has led her to leadership positions not just within our school community but also those outside of the brick walls of Sharon High School. Among her most prominent extracurricular responsibilities involves her spiritual work with her temple including organizations such as the **Teenage Association of Sharon Temple Youth (TASTY) and the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY), social action and community building organizations that advocate for those living in less fortunate circumstances. In both organizations, Rachel has served in a myriad of impressive roles; her Regional Board membership and her elected position as Vice President and Finance Manager in NFTY is one example. Most importantly, Rachel is dedicated, dependable, highly competent, and always positive; she simply brings out the best in people when she is involved. In all that she does, Rachel wants to contribute and “make a difference”. She chooses opportunities where she is most helpful, enthusiastic, and can best use her strengths and devote her full commitment. Thus her resume includes many community service activities and including her summer and school year employment as a Camp counselor (Maplewood Country Day Camp, Easton, MA), Assistant Teacher (Temple Sinai, Sharon MA), and as an Assistant Dance Instructor (Janet Hershman School of Dance, Sharon, MA).**

Academically, “Rachel is a student that every teacher hopes to be able to teach,” is what I often hear from Rachel’s teachers. Her Accelerated Algebra II teacher comments, “Rachel was serious about getting all she could out of the class. She participated and answered questions daily, and was an excellent advocate

### 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*

for herself and classmates when problem solving needed review and/or clarity. She also came for extra help before every assessment, and was a tremendous influence on getting her peers to focus in a particularly large class of highly energetic students!" Her Honors American Studies teacher adds to her colleague's applause, "In this interdisciplinary course that requires students to give presentations in class, collaborate with peers in group projects, to actively participate in Socratic seminars and to think creatively and take intellectual "risks", Rachel does all of the above!" Other teachers share that Rachel doesn't have to be talking all the time to be a leader in the group and add that she will easily take the lead when she has something to say. And, when she does, she's right on target; Rachel listens to others before she speaks. From reading the above, one can almost predict that Rachel's teacher reports reflect what we expect from viewing her transcript. A consistent Honor Roll student, Rachel has earned nothing less than commendable grades in rigorous college preparatory and honors level courses throughout high school. This year Rachel has added the challenge of an Advanced Placement course in psychology, and while she earned a "C" average in this class first quarter (her only "C" on record), her second quarter grade has improved significantly to an A-/B+! Rachel and her teacher agree that her present progress in AP Psychology will continue and yield ongoing honor roll grades for the remainder of the year.

In short, no campus should be without a student like Rachel Shatz. Academically and personally, she is undoubtedly a respected and welcomed student in any classroom. Rachel embraces all that life has to offer, truly enjoying the experiences, challenges and people in her life. I am proud to recommend her acceptance to the selective of colleges and universities.

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