



153 Newton Street
South Hadley, MA 01075
TEL: 413.538.5063
FAX: 413.532.6538

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am honored to recommend Colin Lumb for admission to your program. I have had the privilege of working with Colin during all four years of his time at South Hadley High School, and I have watched him grow into a thoughtful, hardworking, and resilient young man whose strengths extend well beyond the classroom.

One of the qualities that stands out most about Colin is his adaptability and willingness to learn from mistakes. He approaches challenges with a level of self-awareness and determination that is rare in high school students. Colin has spoken candidly about how he struggled at the beginning of his junior year, recognizing that he wasn't performing to his full potential. When he received a diagnosis of ADHD, he didn't allow it to become a limitation; instead, he used it as a way to better understand himself as a learner. Since then, I have seen him grow in his ability to manage distractions, accept constructive criticism, and take meaningful steps to improve his academic performance.

Colin's academic curiosity shines in projects where he can connect the work to his personal interests. His winter outside reading presentation was a standout example of this, demonstrating both deep engagement and thorough preparation. Likewise, his satire writing project highlighted his ability to take on a complex, creative challenge and excel. His willingness to put in the effort and his pride in the result reflect both intellectual curiosity and personal growth.

Beyond the classroom, Colin has shown an impressive level of involvement in athletics, volunteer work, and employment—balancing these commitments with his academic responsibilities. His interest in how things are built and his hands-on experience building his own computer speak to the curiosity and problem-solving mindset that will serve him well in either mechanical or computer engineering.

Colin Lumb is a motivated, resilient, and engaged student who has grown tremendously during his time at South Hadley High School. I am confident that his determination, adaptability, and commitment to both learning and his community will make him a valuable addition to any college program.

Sincerely,

Tina Lesniak

English Department Chair

South Hadley High School

tlesniak@shschools.com | 413-538-5063 ext. 3514