



HOLLAND CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

February 2, 2026

To Whom It May Concern

It is with pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Kate VanAppledorn. Kate is an exceptional person, student, and athlete. She has intelligence and drive, filling her schedule with AP and college-level courses. She has been a part of a Spanish Immersion program since Kindergarten and has earned the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy. Kate has experienced tremendous success as a 3-sport athlete. Volleyball is her first love. She earned all-state honors as a senior. Kate also plays basketball and plays a key role on her team. She was selected all-conference as a junior. Kate also tried her hand at track and field this past year - something she had never done before. She threw discus and shot put. To say she experienced success would be an understatement - she set the school record in the shot put!

Beyond the academics, Kate cares deeply for others, recognizing that she has gifts and talents that can be used to bless others. Compassion is a trait that flows from Kate. She does not need to be the center of attention, nor does she need a big group of people to hang out with. On the contrary, she has the ability to see people who may be on the fringes or left out of social events. Every week Kate eats lunch with classmates who are in the Special Ed program at our school. Friendships are being built, relationships established, and a school culture strengthened because students like Kate and her desire to make new friends. Kate is a regular volunteer at Compassionate Heart Ministries. Compassionate Heart is a local drop-in center for kids and adults with developmental disabilities.

Part of Kate's drive is her desire to improve. While she consistently gives her best effort, she loves feedback and is not afraid of criticism. Being challenged by others is how she improves in all aspects of life. In fact, this desire to be pushed is one aspect of college that she is excited about. She will play college volleyball and knows this higher level of competition and coaching will come with challenges.



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Kate plans to major in education. Her long-term career goals are to be an elementary and/or special education teacher. She also hopes to use her Spanish in the school setting. I am confident that she will find tremendous success as a teacher. Her patience, work ethic, and compassion make her well-suited for this career.

I strongly recommend Kate for your scholarship. She has the ability to handle the rigors of college academics. Her compassion will cause her to have a positive impact on the campus. She is a difference-maker, one you will be proud to call a recipient of your scholarship.

Sincerely,

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