

8 March 2023

Dear Readers and Evaluators for the Eta Omega Chapter of The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Scholarship,

I am pleased to write in support of Mr. Bernardo Little, Jr.'s scholarship application. I have known Mr. Little three years, serving as his Principal and coach. In the time I have known Bernardo, he has distinguished himself as a principled leader and a scholar. He is an ambitious young man with unquestioned integrity who holds himself to high standards of achievement while working enthusiastically to advocate for others and helping to build strong, effective communities. Mr. Little is an exceptional, persevering, and intelligent young man.

Mr. Little is a selfless leader. We met in fall 2020, my first semester as Principal of his high school and, like many, we were pivoting and developing delivery structures so our students and teachers would be safe in our classrooms. At one point, we orchestrated an assembly. After the assembly, the faculty and staff remained behind to disassemble the chairs and to remove the tarps protecting the gym floor. To my surprise, Mr. Little also remained. He and a small group of sophomores assisted with this task. Mr. Little is keenly aware of our community's needs; he is not shy or slow about lending a hand to assist. Indeed, his willingness to serve is emblematic of his care for our school. This concern for our community has been extended – in his senior year – through his election by his peers -- who respect the that he leads by example -- to the office of Student Body President.

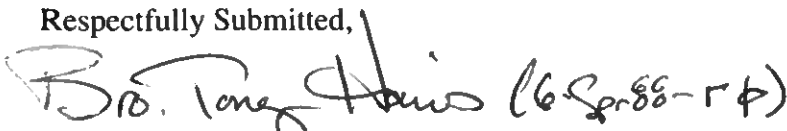
This care was further exemplified this past year when Mr. Little made several respectful inquiries of my office. At various points during the year, he was sent as an emissary to plead the case for one student concern or another. His entreaties were sound, rational, and respectful and though few met with the success he and his peers had hoped for, he has been diligent, thoughtful, and mature in providing our explanations and rationale to his classmates. His maturity and sense of fairness enable him to see the depth and breadth of scenarios and he communicates these well. We have, I am sure, averted mass disappointment because Bernardo has been able to see the many facets of situations and to communicate them well.

Mr. Little is also a talented golfer. As a freshman, he lobbied the school to form a team. Last year, we did so, and Mr. Little captained our first foray into high school golf. He recruited students so that we could establish a roster, and he provided as much instruction and motivation as the coach! He was a welcome, crucial component of the team, often reminding his teammates of the many pitfalls awaiting those who seek immediate reward in a sport that often takes years to master.

Mr. Little aspires to become an attorney. He believes he will best impact the arc of justice in his community with a law degree. Knowing him as I do, I have no doubt he will have great impact on the lives he touches. I have enjoyed watching his star rise as he navigates senior year, and I will continue to lean into his sense of duty and his care for our community.

I offer you my highest recommendation for his selection as an Eta Omega awardee. He will represent our aims well and will do so with integrity.

Respectfully Submitted,


Bro. Robert A. (Tony) Harris, Principal