



# Grosse Ile High School

7800 Grays Drive, Grosse Ile, MI. 48138

Joanne Lelekatch  
Superintendent

Paul Szymanski  
Principal

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Assistant Principal

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To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is in reference for Samantha Levesque and her potential as a worthy recipient to receive your scholarship award. I have had the privilege of instructing Samantha for two of her four years at Grosse Ile High School. After witnessing her pursuit of excellence, not only in her academics but also with her activism within the school climate and her participation within the community, I would highly recommend Samantha as a potential candidate deserving the honor of this award.

Samantha's willingness to work hard was apparent from our first introduction, once Samantha entered my classroom in her junior year, it became more obvious that her determination to understand all the concepts being taught was only a surface glimpse of her dedication toward improving her own understanding and achievement. Samantha's drive for excellence, all with the goal of preparing for her future; whether it be academics or activism; is one aspect of this young woman that makes her stand out above her peers. This exemplar work ethic has also led Samantha to the top third of her class academically, a student who has consistently challenged herself with an advanced course load of accelerated and advanced placement courses, self-selecting AP courses, and enrolling in the accelerated Math and English programs. This type of work ethic led Samantha to be selected as a member of the school's chapter of the National Honor Society, an organization that tutors underclassmen who are struggling academically and who give back to the community by serving at elderly care communities and doing other volunteer work in the area.

Along with working hard on her academics, Samantha is also one of the few students at GIHS who contribute her own time in the hopes of bettering the High School experience for others. Samantha's contributions vary and show her versatility: a member of the French Club, Art Club, Newspaper Club, and the school's chapter of Students Taking A New Direction [S.T.A.N.D], an student driven organization that works in tandem with the administration in order to ensure equality and acceptance of all students. Samantha's leadership was highlighted when she took it upon herself to revive the Art Club. Samantha took on the leadership role to run the club, recruit members, and to focus the meetings. This type of consistent work ethic and desire to improve not only herself, but also the lives of those surrounding her, allow Samantha to stand out among her peers. The fact that Samantha exhibits such qualities at her age is a testament to her character. Samantha continues to not only work for those in need within the school, but also works to help her community.

High achievement in her academics and within her service to the school are only a few aspects that determine Samantha's character. Samantha has spent many hours working for Vista Maria, supporting foster children and the administration; for various Soup Kitchens, feeding those in need; helping to fundraise for the Special Olympics; and helping her neighbors with yard work and housekeeping. Samantha continues to not only serve the larger community, but has also worked various jobs during the school year again taking care of those in need; whether it be children or animals. This type of responsibility and selflessness shown toward others, along with her consistent and constant work ethic only shows Samantha is one of a kind; a young woman who has no problem organizing her priorities. It is my opinion that any student that can balance and achieve a level of excellence in academics, her passion, and within the community will only be an asset to any program and deserves all the credit she can get.

I feel a young woman; a student and a community volunteer, who illustrates such great characteristics as Samantha can only continue to personally excel and in turn will help improve any group and all events in which she is involved. Samantha has my full endorsement as a worthy recipient who has illustrated the qualities that consistently exemplify leadership in the classroom and in life; she is more than a worthy recipient of this scholarship award.

Thank you for your time, and if you need any further information please contact me at [rossowa@gischools.org](mailto:rossowa@gischools.org).

Sincerely,

A. Rossow  
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English Department Chair  
School Improvement CoChair  
College Board Exam Scorer