

Dear Sir or Madam,

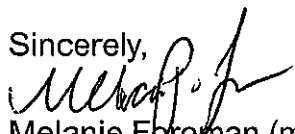
Matt Held is certainly one to be recommended. I am aware of the honor and award one can receive from the Herb Kohl Scholarship. I can promise, Matt is a supreme candidate, deserving of this esteemed award. In several capacities, I have had to call upon Matt to manage and execute tasks. I know that I am not the only one who accesses his endless employability skills, leadership skills, maturity, and diligence. I am Matt's school counselor and have been throughout his high school tenure. Additionally, I am his National Honor Society advisor and Global Travel club advisor.

To first speak to Matt's incredibly mature and professional abilities, I would like to share a more personal connection to his strengths. It is not often that I would recommend a student to work for a family member of mine. I do feel keeping work and personal life separate is necessary. In this circumstance, my brother was in need of a meticulous and youthful employee who is professional, poised, reliable, inquisitive and possesses initiative. Hands down, Matt was the first student to come to mind. Not to mention the other anecdotal support from the adults he had worked for provided additional confirmation. Once hired, it was within a week that I received a message initiated by my brother's company that "Matt is killing it" otherwise regarded as excelling greatly and far exceeding expectations. Essentially, if they could hire him full time, they would. He possessed skills at his age that some may not have obtained even after a four year degree. No doubt, the life experiences and knowledge Matt will gain from his higher education is second to none but this was worth mentioning. Knowing Matt's commitment to attending university and receiving higher education, this opportunity was not a priority at this time, but I do not doubt Matt has a bright professional future.

As another unique layer, one of the stronger reasons why I knew Matt more as an individual was when I took 15 students to Europe this past summer and Matt was one of them. It was incredible to watch students value this opportunity so much and spend over a year to prepare mentally, emotionally, and financially for an educational opportunity that they simply cannot receive in a classroom setting. Matt committed early on to this endeavour and it was evident the amount of time management he practiced while working many hours, attending to a full-time student schedule, and trying to fully fund this trip, etc. His decision to take this trip exemplified his maturity and understanding that experiencing a world outside of his own is not only exciting but has so many long-term positive ramifications for one's personal growth and world view.

Thank you for taking the time to understand why I feel Matt is deserving of the Herb Kohl Scholarship. Feel free to contact me for more information.

Sincerely,



Melanie Foreman (mforeman@waukesha.k12.wi.us) School Counselor

Waukesha South High School
401 E. Roberta Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53186