



Grassfield High School

2007 Grizzly Trail • Chesapeake, Virginia 23323
(757) 558-4749 • Fax (757) 558-9240

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION: AVA CACCKELLO

I am pleased to write a letter of recommendation for Ava Cacckello. Ava has many admirable academic skills and personal attributes that make her an excellent candidate for this scholarship opportunity. I had the fortunate opportunity this year to teach Ava in my Leadership Development class as part of the Governor's STEM Academy.

Ava excelled in our Leadership Development course and was one of my top students in this class. She was dedicated to her studies and passionate about learning and applying new leadership skills. Ava participated in the student leadership program called Lead4Change where she helped raise over 5,000 food items and \$1,000 in cash donations to reduce food insecurity in our community. Ava and her classmates volunteered at the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia assembling food kits for the Backpack Program where her group exceeded production expectations. Ava has also volunteered with Operation Smile to benefit children in need. In our course, Ava earned an industry credential called Project Management Ready, one of several certifications she has achieved in high school.

Ava has many personal attributes that are worth noting. She has excellent communication skills, leadership skills, cooperation, kindness, and integrity. Ava is friendly, extremely polite, and very approachable. Ava works well both independently and collaboratively with a team of peers.

Ava is also a well-rounded student. Ava actively participated in DECA, the Marketing student organization, and was a three-time finalist in District competitions for her business and marketing acumen. Ava was also an active member of the Health & Medicine Club serving as the Social Media Coordinator. Ava has demonstrated workplace readiness skills by working part-time jobs after high school and participating in job-shadowing and internship opportunities.

For these reasons and more, I highly recommend Ava Cacckello for this scholarship opportunity. I believe that Ava will represent this award with honor and integrity.

Sincerely,

David J. Thaw

David J. Thaw
Governor's STEM Academy Instructor
Department Head – Business & Marketing
Grassfield High School