

**Albany High School**  
603 Key Route Blvd.  
Albany, CA 94706  
(510) 558-2500  
ahs.ausdk12.org



**Darren McNally**, Principal  
**Michelle Lau-Seim**, Asst. Principal  
**James Pierce II**, Asst. Principal

**Sean Morris**  
603 Key Route Boulevard  
Albany, CA 94706  
Phone: 510/558-2500  
Fax: 510/559-6584

Main Office and Principal: 510-558-2510  
Attendance Office: 510-558-2600  
Counseling Office: 510-558-2650  
[www.ausdk12.org](http://www.ausdk12.org)

Dear Bio Rad Scholarship Committee,

Aryan Baliga Punjalkatte builds and teaches in the same breath. He is as gifted at solving a hard problem as he is at helping someone else solve it — a rare combination in a high school student.

I have had the opportunity to work and teach Aryan Baliga Punjalkatte over the last two years. He took two of my courses, AP Computer Science A and Electronics Workshop as well as being my Teaching Assistant in the AP Computer Science A course. Amazing student, amazing person.

For example, as my tutor he helped implement a homework and testing framework through a piece of software called PrairieLearn; this was a technical set of exercises to get it working that without his help would make this impossible to accomplish. He was able to research, pursue problems, and report back to me on issues that I could then solve quickly.

He also used the time to support students extensively in the course who struggled on concepts; he is an excellent teacher and resource for these kinds of students and made a big difference in their ability to perform.

This is on top of his work in the Electronics Workshop course where he and his partner are on the cutting edge both algorithmically and technically on each of our projects. In particular, they built a vehicle that uses specialized wheels, multiple power sources, capacitors, and transistors. The vehicle could turn in place, move sideways and avoid walls. It was excellent.

Aryan is ready for college and ready for engineering. I have no doubt he will find professors and projects that challenge him the way he challenges himself here. What sets him apart for a scholarship like this one is that his technical gift never stays his alone — he turns it outward, into tools his classmates can use and concepts they can finally understand. That is exactly the kind of scientist and engineer worth investing in. He comes with my highest recommendation, and we will miss him here.

**Sean Morris**  
Computer Science Educator  
Albany High School