

February 25, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my sincere pleasure to recommend Nyaria Michelle Windham for scholarship consideration. As the Commissioner of Standards for the Great Mills High School Student Government Association during the 2024–2025 school year, Nyaria has demonstrated steady leadership, integrity, and a deep commitment to serving others. In my role as SGA Sponsor and teacher, I have had the privilege of witnessing her growth, discipline, and quiet strength firsthand.

Nyaria leads through consistency and humility. She is not a student who seeks attention, yet her presence is felt in the quality of every project she touches. During our Homecoming season, while many students celebrated at the football game, Nyaria remained behind to complete one of the most detailed and time-consuming responsibilities. She understood that excellence requires follow-through, and she chose responsibility over recognition. That moment reflects her character: dependable, selfless, and committed to collective success.

Her leadership extends beyond SGA. Nyaria is an active member of the National Honor Society, the Class of 2026 Club, and the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. youth group, where she serves as Chaplain. She volunteers at Special Olympics and contributes consistently to school and community initiatives such as Nest Fest and Senior Sunrise. Service is not an occasional activity for her; it is a pattern.

Academically, Nyaria approaches her goals with perseverance and maturity. She does not shy away from challenges. She seeks feedback, revises thoughtfully, and holds herself accountable. Her aspiration to attend an HBCU and earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, ultimately becoming a Pediatric Nurse, reflects both ambition and compassion. Nursing requires discipline, empathy, and resilience which are all qualities she already demonstrates daily.

What makes Nyaria especially deserving of scholarship support is her reliability. She honors commitments. She maximizes opportunities. She understands that investment in her education is not just personal advancement, but preparation to serve others meaningfully in the future. I am confident that any scholarship awarded to her will be met with gratitude, responsibility, and continued excellence.

Nyaria is a young woman of integrity and quiet determination. I recommend her wholeheartedly and appreciate your thoughtful consideration of her application.

Sincerely,

Raquel Ayala Grassinger

Raquel Ayala Grassinger
Teacher of Multilingual Learners (ESOL)
SGA Sponsor
Lighthouse Productions Assistant Director
Great Mills High School
ragrassinger@smcps.org
(240) 913-5349 (School Number)