

February 4, 2025

Letter of recommendation for Randy King Scholarship

Re: Hanna Hyché

Dear Scholarship Committee,

It is my pleasure to strongly recommend Hanna Hyché for the Randy King Scholarship. I am Nina Graham, a teacher at Westwood Elementary School. I have 28 years of experience working in the educational field. I have taught Sunday school and VBS for the past 23 years and accompanied many retreats and youth trips with my church. While I've taught many children over the course of my career, Hanna is one individual I have taught who uniquely stands out.

I have known Hanna since she was about two years old. Her mother, Christy, and I became friends when Wil, her oldest son, started school with my son Sam. I grew very fond of the family from the moment we met and have become best friends over the years.

I was fortunate to be able to teach all of the Hyché children. Each of these children have come through a great deal of suffering through the loss of their father after battling cancer for 8 years. I was at the hospital the day Christy found out William, her husband, had cancer. From that day forward, there would be a great deal of treatments and trips to hospitals that would separate the family as they would have to stay confined to a room with no visitors. William was a christian man, the spiritual leader of his family. He expected nothing less from his children than to be thankful for all things. He taught them by example how to keep going even when times are tough, to never give up. All of the Hyché children have a resilience like no other. They are strong in their beliefs and have an unwavering faith. They are all hard working and goal oriented. Through all of these trials and tribulations, it was inevitable, Hanna would some day want to pursue a degree in the medical field to help others who would be going through all the things she had experienced throughout her life.

I have adored Hanna since she was a toddler, but when I really got to know her on a daily basis, I became greatly impressed. It was truly an honor to be her 4th grade teacher. I always knew she would do something great with her life, and it made me proud to know I would be a small part of her story. Hanna has a natural talent in making others feel good about themselves. She

is a motivator. She has extraordinary character traits, study habits, organization skills, teamwork, leadership, and time management skills. She is wise beyond her years and very mature for her age. She is never, and has never been, one to get into any drama- and believe me, drama surrounds little girls at that particular age. Her empathy, compassion, and love of people have always been far more advanced than that of her peers. When Hanna was in the 5th grade, she received one of the highest honors of Westwood Elementary School when she received the Tennessee Safety Patroller of the year Award (see attached newspaper article). She was also named Westwood's "Top Tiger". She has always been well liked by her peers and teachers. Hanna is a joy to be around. She has a positive attitude and a great outlook on life. She has the ability to lead others without coming off haughty or arrogant. She is humble, kind and has no prejudices.

I am confident that Hanna would be a great fit for your Scholarship. Not only does she bring the kind of skills and experiences you're looking for in an applicant, but she will also quickly become one of your favorite applicants. She will surely make you proud to know that your scholarship money was well spent and helped a young woman to become the person God created her to be and to serve Him and His purpose for her life.

The Randy King Scholarship will be such a blessing for Hanna. It would help relieve her family of unnecessary monetary worries that have been an on-going concern since all the medical bills started years ago. I am confident that she will prove her gratefulness by upholding all the fine qualities I have mentioned above. She has a beautiful story of her young life in how God, faith, and family will get you through the toughest times. Her character reminds me of the Philippians 4:11-12 (ESV) "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need".

As a recommendation letter likely only provides a snapshot of her talents and achievements, I would be happy to elaborate further on my time working with her. If you need more information or specific examples, please do not hesitate to contact me at (615)969-6999 or ninag@wcs.edu.

Sincerely,

*Nina Graham*

Nina Graham, Westwood Elementary, 4th grade teacher



*Hanna Hyche From WCS inFocus*

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From WCS inFocus

Fairview is once again home to Tennessee's Safety Patroller of the Year. Fairview Middle sixth grader Hanna Hyche received the award last year as a fifth grade student at Westwood Elementary.

The Safety Patrollers are a group of fourth and fifth graders who are committed to setting positive behavior examples. Hanna was the captain of the group and helped guide students in the hall during arrival and dismissal, monitored hallways and led the Safety Patrol's monthly meetings.

More than 650,000 students in 34,500 school across the nation participate in the AAA School Safety Program. Only one student is selected from each state to be the Safety Patroller of the Year. In order to receive the award, Hanna had to complete an application and an essay about the leadership qualities she learned from being the captain of Westwood Elementary's Safety Patrol.

In recognition of her award, Hanna was given a laptop and a plaque.

"Hanna led our patrollers daily and set positive examples for all our students," said WES Safety Patrol Leader Jessica Alberson. "She's organized, motivated, responsible and hardworking."

Link to the above article:

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