

To: School Board members
Browning Public Schools
Browning, Mt 59417

April 9, 2021

From: Katherine "Kitty" SkunkCap
Inclusion Teacher
Browning High School

RE: Request for Early Graduation for Tia Spotted Eagle

Dear School Board Members:

I am writing this letter in support of Tia Spotted Eagle and her desire to graduate early and to be able to march in the class of 2021 commencement exercises this May.

I am Tia's Case manager at the Browning High School. I have had Tia throughout her high school career. I know Tia to be a kind, respectful, responsible young lady with a lot of desire and commitment to her studies as well as her overall being. Last year Tia approached me with her request to graduate early as she is soon to be 18 and she is eager to move on to her next phase of life and go to college and on to a career hopefully in the field of becoming a veterinarian. With that, I placed her on the track to finishing up early and she doubled up on her Junior and Senior classes and has proven herself with tenacity and grit. Attached are her current grades and transcript. If you look at it you will see that she maintains mostly A's in all classes with an overall GPA of 3.571. She has taken on a full load of difficult studies and even with an IEP in effect, she maintains these grades with very little assistance from the Special Education department. Tia has been collecting and organizing her items necessary for her Portfolio and is willing to present. She also has her community service hours and is working on completing the Financial Literacy courses necessary to graduate.

Tia has experienced a lot of trauma in her life, she has been between schools, as well as homes as she stayed with her grandparents, ended up having trouble with an aunt there and then had to move in with her mother and siblings and had to settle in with each one. Her step-father, whom she adored, and the only dad she knew growing up, died suddenly during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Tia is very committed to helping her mother keep their life together and helping her by gaining a college degree and being a successful mentor to her younger siblings.

In a recent review of her grad plan, Tia currently has 18.75 credits to date and all of her requirements will be fulfilled at the end of this semester and therefore there would be no need for her to even attend classes next Fall as her credit requirements will be met.

It is my pleasure to promote Tia and I would be honored if you would grant her this waiver of the policy to go ahead and allow her to graduate this May, 2021 and grant her her high school diploma.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine "Kitty" SkunkCap
Inclusion Teacher
Browning High School.