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To Admissions:

I first met Isaiah Dyrst when he was twelve years old. He was running a lemonade stand across the street from the Farmers Market in Logan Square, where I was selling meat from our farm in Michigan. Isaiah came and asked me for a job working at the market. I'm thinking, what can I have a twelve-year old do? I was impressed that he had a willingness and a desire to work. I thought that he could help us set up our booth, clean coolers and pack up at the end of the day.

Isaiah showed up on time every Sunday to work and never complained. No matter the early hour, the weather, or the job I had for him to do, he handled it. Whether it was hauling meat from the truck to the booth, scrubbing coolers, packing up supplies, folding the tent or lifting the tent weights, Isaiah would do it. Eventually he would hang around during the market and learned to wait on customers, calculate pricing and complete sales. He is trustworthy, dependable and a natural with math and technology, which is helpful when we have any issues with phones for accepting credit cards.

He was observant and listened with intent when we talked to customers about our farm. Isaiah became confident with sales by interacting with our customers, easily relaying information about our farm and business. On one of his spring breaks he came to our farm in Michigan to work. He wanted to learn more while working on a hog farm, so he could relay that experience to our customers. Isaiah has a heart for people, and realizes the importance of establishing personal relationships in business. We had a great time showing Isaiah the farm life, and in return he has taught me much about life in the city.

Isaiah's strong work ethic, passion for business, knowledge in technology, and desire to learn makes him a great asset to any college community. It has been a privilege to watch this young man grow. To watch his character, grow and change from a child to a young man. Isaiah is an honest, trustworthy, dependable, and caring individual. I am thankful he is my friend.

Warm regards,

Lou Ann Robinson
President, CEO