

SHANON WOOLF

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Letter of Recommendation: Grace Lovejoy, class of 2026

I am writing on behalf of Grace Lovejoy, who is serving as the Editor-in-Chief of the McIntosh High School Trail Online News Site this year. This is Grace's second year as EiC, and as a sophomore served as Feature Editor.

Under her leadership, the Trail has had its majority of national and statewide awards, including a School Newspapers Online Distinguished Site accolade, and six Best of SNO Writing pieces that Ms. Lovejoy wrote or edited. Additionally, she was one of few students selected for the prestigious New Voices Institute, where student journalists from around the country learned student press freedom rights.

Ms. Lovejoy has led with patience, kindness, intelligence, and openness. She is looked up to by every member of the team, and never misses a deadline. She looks for stories where others do not think to look. She gets along with every personality on staff and goes beyond her in-class friend group to be sure she is working with younger and newer staffers.

Some of the Trail's best interviews and features this year were Ms. Lovejoy's work. She has the gift of listening and turning someone's words into a narrative. Her work needs very little editing, even from MLA to AP style. She has a knack for devising the sorts of questions that lead to an interesting response from her subjects. She is one of the most self-guided and independent students I've had the pleasure of working with, and she accepts constructive criticism in that special way that really talented writers are hungry for receiving. When it's been a news-heavy week, Ms. Lovejoy volunteers to take on another article in addition to what was already assigned to her, and in addition to her other coursework.

What I can say with certainty is that Ms. Lovejoy is going to contribute to your university in the way she has contributed to her high school: she will participate, go out of her comfort zone, she will try new things attentively. We can also count on her to matriculate on time, as her wide variety of high school experiences has prepared her for life at a large university like yours.

You may contact me with any follow-up information you may need regarding Grace.

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