

Teresa Potter

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To: SPCSA Public Comment
Subject: Necca Academy Public Comment

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Hi, My name is Haley P. and I'm a current Junior.

I am writing in support of Necca Academy. I think it would be neat to attend and present in person but I have class.

I moved to Las Vegas in my 9th grade year from Ohio to live with my aunt. I struggled with school because I had a lot of homelife stuff going on. I passed my 9th grade year and half of 10th grade year. I wasn't able to fully attend 10th grade and so I didn't earn any credit my second semester. My life at the time just had a lot of ups and downs. I'm in foster care now and things finally are stable. Now, I'm entering my Junior year with 9.5 credits.

My foster parent thought an early college program might be a good fit for me. As I learned more about the program, it sounded really interesting. I liked the idea of getting a headstart in college, and also not going to another school that is either overcrowded or poorly rated. Unfortunately, I realized that my 9.5 credits was not enough to be accepted into the program. I was 1.5 credit short. It was so sad.

I really like the idea of Necca Academy because it's an early college program that I would have been able to get into and get back on track really quickly. Each semester of college courses is one full credit of high school, and based on their academic plan, I would earn 8.5 or 9 high school credits in my first year with 2 or 3 college courses per semester (1 credit per semester) and 3 Necca courses per semester (0.5 credit per semester). I think this program would be really helpful to a student in my shoes who has had a lot of challenges and instability because the elective courses will focus a lot on study habits, social skills, mental health, and real life skills like resume building, teamwork, interviewing, applying for jobs and applying for college.

I'm bummed that I didn't get into the other dual enrollment high school. I really think I would have done well. I really hope that Necca Academy is approved so that we have more options as students.

Thank you for your time!!