

January 14, 2019,

Office of Financial Aid
The Pennsylvania State University
Metzgar Center
4851 College Drive
Erie, PA 16563

Dear Mr. Luke Luther,

As a recipient of the 2018-2019 Robert W. Sparks Memorial Scholarship of the Lake Erie Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association, I want to thank you for funding this scholarship.

My name is Madison McFeely. I began my studies at Penn State Behrend in the fall of 2015. I am pursuing a **major in Elementary and Early Childhood Education** along with a minor in Special Education. I am currently student teaching at one of the local school districts in the area. Student teaching is similar to a full time teaching position, but without the salary.

This scholarship is a tremendous help, and I greatly appreciate it! It will allow me to focus solely on student teaching and eliminate the pressures of working additional jobs to cover my tuition payments. When I graduate this May, I plan to stay in the Erie area and teach at one of the local elementary schools. I grew up in this area, and would like to give back to the community in any way I can.

I have worked very hard during my college career to ensure academic success with a 3.860 GPA while getting involved on campus, as club secretary for the Student Pennsylvania State Education Association. The positions I have held on campus allowed for the opportunity to develop professionally and to work alongside many of my education professors. I am currently the research assistant for math education department. This past summer I had the opportunity to conduct research in local school districts with two of my education professors. During the previous semester I was part of a research team, which was led by another one of my education professors. Each of these experiences have greatly benefited me as a student and as a future educator.

Being awarded this scholarship is a great honor, and will allow me to focus on completing my final semester here at Penn State Behrend, and I cannot thank you enough for that!

Sincerely,



Madison McFeely