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Parent information sheet for open house

Have you been asked to give a statement of praise to the parent of your child's guidance counselor? Have you heard of other parents filling them out and wondering if they are required for college applications? Parent praise sheets are becoming increasingly popular, but many parents don't get much guidance on how to complete them. I created this guide to explain what a parent praise sheet is and what you are using for. We also go over the common parent praise the example sheet questions and explain to them. What is a parent brag sheet? Why do you need one? A parent praise sheet is a form you may be asked to fill out for your child's guidance counselor. Guidance counselors are sometimes asked to provide letters of recommendation for students applying to college. Because it is not unusual for counselors to be assigned dozens, or even hundreds of students, they may not know certain students well enough to write a letter in depth, especially if they only meet with students twice a year or so. The parent praise sheet is a way for the student parent to highlight the strengths of their child, so the counselor can include an honest, in-depth, and strong recommendation letter with the student's college requests. When students ask teachers for letters of recommendation, we recommend that they write their own praise sheets to give teachers ideas about the skills and personality characteristics they might highlight. A sheet of praise the parent is the same, except the parent writes about their child. Some counsellors believe that parents can provide a more detailed analysis of their child than the student can provide him/her. It is important to note that you may not be asked to write a sheet of praise to the parent; many parents are not. Many colleges do not require counselor referral letters, and some high school counselors either ask students to compose their own praise sheets or complete the letter of recommendation without a praise sheet. If you are not asked to write a parent's praise sheet for college recommendations, don't worry. It will not have a negative impact on the student's demands. What does a parent brag sheet include? Not sure to write a sheet of parenting for college? The parent praise sheet usually consists of several short-answer questions that you will complete. The number of questions varies, but it is often around five to ten. Questions will ask about different aspects of your child's personality and achievements, and you should expect to spend at least 30 minutes on it. 4 Tips for a Standout Parent Brag Sheet for College Often, parents are not given a lot of direction on how fill out the parent praise sheet, but we've got you covered! Here are four tips to follow to make sure you create the strongest praise sheet for your child. #1: Give specific examples to support your statements The absolute best way to create a strong sheet of parenting praise is to back up with examples. Even if you gush throughout the sheet of praise over how smart and diligent your child is, if you have no example to support these claims, counselors probably won't include them in their letter. They'll only write about things that they're confident are true, so they need proof. So, for every positive attribute you declare, it gives an example to support it. So if you've stayed that your daughter is a math whiz, include things like math prizes she won, grades in math classes, scores from math sections in SAT/ACT, etc. #2: Aim for a positive but honest, Ton Sometimes parents struggle to know what tone to hit with the parent praise sheet. They either feel like they need to prove their child is the most amazing high school student to ever walk the earth, or they feel compelled to give warts and all the story and open about the times their child was lazy/dishonest/etc Don't go for any of these extremes. You want to keep things honest and not exaggerate your accomplishments, but you don't have to mention that time when your child sneaked out of the house to see a concert on a school night. You can be glowing (it's actually expected for something called a praise sheet), but just make sure all your requests are rooted in fact. Again, this is why the examples are so useful. #3: Talk to your child about what to include you might be breaking to tell everyone about your amazing son piano playing, but he may be focusing his application on his powerful writing skills because he wants to be a journalist. It's certainly not bad to be an aspiring journalist who also plays nice piano, but colleagues are more impressed by a strong peak in a field than being well rounded in many different fields. This means that apps are stronger when they have a common theme running through them, especially if they link in an upcoming career. You want the counselor's letter to be part of that topic, which could affect what you choose to discuss in certain responses. Talk to your child about the main things they would like to include, so that their advisor's letter of recommendation highlights the skills and attributes that will give their app the greatest boost. #4: Keep it concise counselors are reading dozens, often hundreds, of these praise sheets, so don't give them a novel. Making answers clear and concise is the best way to make sure your advisor reads all the information and receives your main points. A few sentences is enough to answer most questions, and none Your answers should be much more than a paragraph. Want to build the best college app possible? We can help you. Prepscholar Admissions is the best admissions consulting service in the world. We combine world-class admissions advisors with our data-driven admission strategies. I've watched thousands of students enter their top choice schools, from ivy League teammates. We know what kind of students they want to recognize colleges. We want you to be admitted to your dream schools. Learn more about AdmissionPrepscholar to maximize your chance to enter. High School Parent Brag Sheet Example Questions Different Counselors will create different forms of praise sheet, but all will ask about student achievements, academic habits, and personal strengths. Below are 12 common questions included in high school parent praise sheet examples, as well as an explanation of what the counselor is looking for and what you should include in each of your answers. #1: What was your student's greatest achievement in high school? This can be related to academics, it would be an A in a math class they struggled with or win a prestigious academic contest, but it doesn't need to. For example, if your child started high school struggling with time management, but made great strides, which is also a great example. #2: Which of the three adjectives best describe your student? For this question, you are often asked to specify the adjective, and then explain why you chose it. Include specific examples whenever possible to explain your reasoning. For example, if you chose the mature adjective, you could give an example of a child offering to take on additional tasks when you had to stay late at work to take care of younger siblings to help friends resolve disagreements, etc. #3: Are there circumstances that have affected the student's education or personal experiences? Colleagues really don't try to be as fair as possible during the admissions process, so if something happened beyond the control of your child that has negatively affected them, they want to know about it so they can consider it. Potential examples may include parental divorce, serious illness, death of a person close to the student, etc. To answer this question, the state event, the impact it has had on the student (such as a drop in grades or prolonged absence from school), and (if any) the progress we've made since then, would have the classes going back up. If this question does not apply to your student (and will not be for most), feel free to write N/A and move on. #4: What does the single student do? This doesn't have to be something earth-shattering; the question is more ask a special attribute of your child. You may never have to tell them to do their homework, that they're incredibly creative, that they've known since they were four years old that they wanted to be astronauts, etc. Give the trait, then add a few explanatory sentences to why it is important for your child. #5: What activities does your student like? This question is to help the counselor learn about your extracurricular child's activities, especially those outside the school you might not know about. List of three or so your child cares the most. For each, include how long they have been involved and some highlight their involvement (such as prizes won, a favorite memory, etc.) so that the advisor gets a complete picture of your child's interests and commitment. #6: Which activity or subject is the most passionate student? Colleges are fascinated by the passions of applicants, and students with a strong passion often have a better chance of entering their dream school. Does your kid like to take pictures? Are you reading about ancient history? Designing websites? Learn about chemistry? To be part of the school football team? Be sure to give some examples of how they've engaged to their passion, would be taking classes, joining clubs, learning on their own, etc. #7: What do you think is your student's greatest power? There are a lot of options here, so choose one(s) you think describes the best student. One could mention creativity, optimism, problem solving, perseverance, organization, discipline, the ability to get along with everyone, etc. You could also discuss more concrete skills, would be exceptional math or writing skills, athletic talent, etc. Whatever you choose, be sure to include at least one example to make a support your claim. #8: What example is if your student has demonstrated leadership? This can be at school, during an extracurricular, or at home. Be sure to explain how your child took over and what the positive result was. For example, Jenna loved being part of her School Outdoors Club because it allowed her to become more familiar with nature and be around colleagues with similar interests. However, she wanted more opportunities for group tours, so she took her to contact 8 outdoor experience tour operators and arrange discounted rates for the group. As a result, she became the club's first liaison. Since then, the club has doubled in size and is organising an outing at least once a month. #9: What are your student's career aspirations? Knowing your child's potential career goals can make it easier for the counsellor to create a theme for their rec letter. For example, if your child wants to become a psychiatrist, the counsellor could use the letter to highlight the student's stem skills and the desire to help other students with their homework and group projects. This does not have to be a detailed answer; a brief overview of your child's career goals is sufficient. If they don't have a blocked career yet, that's fine. In this case, you would mention the general interests they have, it would be history or math. #10: has the student matured since the beginning of high school? Colleagues like to see personal growth, and understand that many high school students are quite different people as seniors than they were as freshmen. Has your child improved with time management? Becoming more obstacle-resistant? I started to ask for help when You don't understand something? This is also a great opportunity to discuss weaker parts of your child's demand (such as lower grades or a lack of extracurricular freshman year) and give examples of how far they've come since then. #11: does your student react to failures? Everyone will face obstacles throughout their lives, and colleagues want to admit students are confident they can run with their fists. For this question, you will want to give one or more examples of your child overcoming a step back (such as not doing a sports team, getting a low grade on a test or in a class, having plans canceled because of COVID-19, etc.). Describe how they did the best things and the skills they use to bounce back from low points. #12: Is there any additional information you want to share about your student? Most parents won't have anything to add here, but it's a last chance to mention something you didn't include in the other answers. If there is anything about your child you think it is important for the school counselor to know when writing their letter of recommendation, mention it here. Summary: Parent Brag Sheet for College Recommendations When their child starts their senior year of high school, many parents are asked to fill out a parent's praise sheet for college recommendations. This praise sheet is used by student guidance counselor to write a letter of recommendation or counselor form some colleges require. Expect to answer about 5-10 questions; High school parent praise sheet of example questions are discussed just above this section of the article. When filling out the parent praise sheet, remember to always include examples, find a positive but honest tone, discuss with your child what to include and keep the answers to about one paragraph. What's next? Admission to college is becoming more and more competitive every year, so you want to introduce yourself with the best app you can. Read about to build a versatile college application here. For more on the ins and outs to apply to college, check out this complete step-by-step guide! It goes everywhere, from choosing high school classes to brainstorming personal ideas. Did you know that a few schools ask for recommendations from colleagues, and some students send them along as supplements? Read the full guide to peer recommendations here. Want to improve your SAT score by 160 points or your ACT score by 4 points? I've written a guide for each test about the first 5 strategies you need to use to have a chance at improving your score. Download it for free now: now:

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