Issaquah High Student Profile

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IHS Class of 2022

What classes at school do you love and why?
My favorite subject has always been math so I loved all the math classes I've taken, but I also loved AP Chemistry with Mr. Scaringi last year. The Spanish classes I've taken have always been really fun too.

Are you a running start student? If so, full-time or part-time? What do you love about taking college classes with the running start program? Any pros and/or cons with taking running start classes during high school?
I'm a part-time running start student, and for Fall Quarter I'm taking Calculus IV. I was really looking forward to driving to Bellevue College every morning but as of right now, most BC classes are virtual which is really sad. The main pro of running start is you have a lot more classes to choose from and they treat you like a college student which means you can work through the class with way more freedom. It can sometimes be tough to fit in your BC classes with your high school schedule but if you plan ahead it's really not a big deal.

What are some of your favorite high school memories?

A lot of my favorite high school memories come from the Cross Country and Track teams. Everyone on the team is so supportive, a lot of my friends are from Cross Country and Track, and it really does feel like a family. Other of my best high school memories have come from things like going to football games with friends or the Homecoming dance.

Do you play sports and if so, how has sports made an impact on your life? Any highlights you would like to share?

I have been on the Cross Country and Track teams all of high school and all of middle school too. Cross country invites have been some of the best days of my life. Taking the bus with the team somewhere far away before the sun rises, spending the day at an invite where everyone gives a race there all, stuffing your face with food as soon as you can, and then riding the bus back triumphant is an unparalleled experience. Running has also taught me so much about discipline and self-motivation. It's relatively simple to train for, you just run more, but getting yourself outside every day, no matter the weather, and fighting off boredom on long runs has really shaped my work ethic. The discipline I've developed from running has carried over to other aspects of my life and really made me who I am today. I wouldn't rather do any other sport.

Are you in a club and if so, what are the best parts of being in that club? Any memorable experiences you would like to share?

I was in Robotics club freshman year and going to competitions with the whole time was an awesome experience. Right now, I am the treasurer of the Model United Nations club. We're a fairly small club and last year was our first year, so mostly I'm really looking forward to generating more interest in the club and shaping it so others can have great experiences in the years to come.

Any plans yet after high school? If so, tell us about them.

After high school, I plan to go to college and get a degree in Computer Science and a minor in Music. I love cities so I'd love to go to college in a big city like San Francisco, Chicago, or Boston. Some of my dream schools are Stanford, MIT, and Carnegie Mellon but I'm just really excited to go to college anywhere. I'll probably get a somewhat normal programming job right afterward but one day I want to be part of a tech startup that will change the world!

Do you have any cool hobbies? Please elaborate.

My biggest passions are running, programming, and music. Running, even just for myself and not for the team, gives me an escape from my daily life. It really helps me relax and de-stress or think hard about a problem I'm having. Music does the same thing for me. I've been playing piano for around 8 years and it never fails to calm me down no matter what is going on. I love programming because of how challenging it is, as that's what makes it rewarding. Programming can be really hard and frustrating but once you figure out a problem you feel ecstatic about it.

What do you do for fun? Please share more about what you do for fun in your spare time.

I make sure to run 6 days a week and schoolwork takes up a lot of time, but I'm never at a loss for what to do with my spare time. In addition to practicing, I love to play the piano in my free time because it's really enjoyable for me and it's a beautiful way to express emotion. Sometimes I also try my hand at writing music. I'm not great at it but it is really fun still. Learning new programming languages and skills by working on side projects is something else I like to do too. Obviously, I haven't been able to do much of this lately but hanging out with my friends in probably my favorite thing to do in my free time. Before Coronovirus we would go to Central Park in the Highlands, the movie theatre, the lake, and tons of other stuff.

Is there anything else special about you that you would like to share?

During quarantine I found myself with a lot of extra time and decided to take on a really big programming project. In August I deployed the final product and started my own business! Wordbose uses the power of AI to perform audio to text transcription both cheaper and faster than anyone else. It was a lot of work but I'm really proud of the final product. There's a generous free tier and if you make an account you can save your transcripts. I also have transcript of the presidential debates. Go to https://wordbose.com to check it out!