



ASSESSMENT REPORT

Request to Introduce a Basketball Team to the CH Public School PSSA Program

Student: Liam

persuasive · Year 5 · 6 Aug 2026 · v1 · NAPLAN Persuasive (Years 3–9)

TOTAL SCORE

40 / 48

PERCENTAGE

83%

Overall impression

Your persuasive letter is engaging and well-structured, with strong arguments for introducing a basketball team. Focus on adding specific examples and a clear thesis to strengthen your case even further.

Strongest criteria

Ideas – Relevance and development of arguments

"build leadership"

"showcase raw talent"

"promote multiculturalism"

Your arguments are relevant and well-developed, focusing on leadership, talent, and multiculturalism. These points are clearly articulated and support your main argument effectively.

Vocabulary – Precision and variety of word choice

"multiculturalism"

"initiative"

"reputation"

Your vocabulary is precise and varied, enhancing the persuasiveness of your arguments. Words like 'multiculturalism' and 'initiative' add depth to your writing.

Focus areas for improvement

Text Structure – Introduction, body, and conclusion — Missing thesis

"would adding a basketball team to CH Public School PSSA program benefit our school?"

Your introduction captures attention but lacks a clear thesis statement that outlines your position and main arguments. This makes it harder for the reader to grasp the overall direction of your letter.

The fix:

Add a thesis statement at the end of your introduction that clearly states your position and summarizes your main arguments. This will provide a roadmap for your reader and strengthen your overall structure.

Ideas – Relevance and development of arguments — Lack of evidence

“our school's raw talent should not be wasted”

While your arguments are strong, they lack specific evidence or examples to support them. This makes it harder for the reader to fully buy into your claims.

The fix:

Include specific examples or evidence to support your arguments. For instance, mention any known talented basketball players in your school or cite statistics about the benefits of sports in schools.

Technical audit

Paragraphing

Paragraphs are well-organized, each focusing on a distinct argument, which helps maintain clarity and focus.

Other

Consider adding more varied persuasive devices to enhance the impact of your arguments.

Pro tip

Your use of vocabulary is strong and enhances your arguments. To further improve, focus on integrating specific examples and evidence to support your claims. This will make your arguments more convincing and impactful.

Note to parents

Your child has demonstrated strong persuasive writing skills with a clear and engaging letter. Encouraging them to include specific examples and evidence will further strengthen their arguments. Practicing the addition of a clear thesis statement in their introductions will also enhance their writing structure.

Closing comment

You've done a great job presenting your case for a basketball team at your school. Keep working on adding specific examples and a clear thesis to make your arguments even more compelling. Well done!

Criterion breakdown

Audience – Engages and persuades the reader 5/6

The draft engages the reader with a clear purpose and persuasive tone, addressing Mr. Miller directly and appealing to school values.

Text Structure – Introduction, body, and conclusion 2/4

The introduction and conclusion are present but lack key elements like a thesis statement and encapsulation of arguments.

Ideas – Relevance and development of arguments 4/5

The arguments are relevant and well-developed, focusing on leadership, talent, and multiculturalism, but lack specific evidence.

Persuasive Devices – Effective techniques to persuade 3/4

The draft uses rhetorical questions and appeals to values effectively but could benefit from more varied devices.

Vocabulary – Precision and variety of word choice 4/5

The vocabulary is precise and varied, with words like 'multiculturalism', 'initiative', and 'reputation' enhancing the argument.

Cohesion – Logical flow with connectives and synonyms 3/4

Logical flow is maintained with connectives, but some transitions between ideas could be smoother.

Paragraphing – Effective paragraph divisions 3/3

Paragraphs are effectively divided, each focusing on a distinct argument, maintaining clarity and focus.

Sentence Structure – Correct grammar and variation 5/6

Sentences are varied and grammatically correct, enhancing readability and engagement.

Punctuation – Correct and appropriate use 5/5

No punctuation issues were detected; the draft uses punctuation correctly and effectively.

Spelling – Accuracy and complexity 6/6

Spelling is accurate throughout the draft, with no errors detected.

Paragraph structure checklist

How each paragraph maps to the curriculum framework (C.O.S.T. introduction, T.E.E.L. body paragraphs, R.E.S.T. conclusion for persuasive; orientation / development / resolution for narrative).

Introduction (C.O.S.T.) 1 / 4

"Dear Mr Miller,"

✓ Capture the reader's attention (C)

"Dear Mr Miller,"

✗ **Outline viewpoint on the topic (O)**

State your position clearly (e.g. 'I strongly believe that...' or 'It is time schools must...').

✗ **Summarise the three main arguments (S)**

Preview all three arguments in a single sentence using a three-item list joined by 'and'.

✗ **Thesis statement (T)**

Close the introduction with a firm thesis (e.g. 'It is abundantly clear that...').

Body paragraph 1 (T.E.E.L.) 2 / 4

"Please take a moment to consider a valuable question: would adding a basketball team to CH Public School PSSA program..."

✓ Topic sentence (T)

"Please take a moment to consider a valuable question: would adding a basketball team to CH Public School PSSA program benefit our school?"

✓ Elaboration — explain the why (E)

"First, a basketball team will foster essential leadership skills."

✗ **Example / evidence (E)**

Add a specific example — a statistic, a real-world case, or a named source ('A 2023 report by...').

✗ **Link back to thesis (L)**

Close the paragraph with a rhetorical question that ties back to your position (e.g. 'Don't all students deserve this?').

Conclusion (R.E.S.T.) 0 / 3

"HOW TO SOLVE THE NO COACH PROBLEM While I acknowledge a potential gap in these arguments, a viable solution exists. T..."

X Restate topic and position (R)

Open with a conclusion signpost such as 'In conclusion,' or 'Ultimately,'.

X Encapsulate the three arguments (E)

Summarise all three arguments again in a single sentence using a three-item list.

X Closing thesis statement (T)

End with a strong closing thesis (e.g. 'It is abundantly clear that...').

Annotated draft

Strength Focus area

Dear Mr Miller,

Please take a moment to consider a valuable question: **would adding a basketball team to CH Public School PSSA program benefit our school?**^[!1] While extracurricular activities are often debated, I fervently believe that basketball must be introduced to our school. Introducing this sport will **build leadership**^[★1], **showcase raw talent**^[★2], and **promote multiculturalism**^[★3].

First, a basketball team will foster essential leadership skills. Even if we cannot find a formal coach, this challenge presents an excellent opportunity. It will inspire students to step up and lead their peers to victory. Teaching leadership in such a fun, engaging way is incredibly valuable. This firsthand experience will prepare students to become exceptional school captains and vice captains, raising the **reputation**^[★5] of CH Public School.

Second, **our school's raw talent should not be wasted**^[!2]. There are many gifted basketball players in our school—including myself—who are ready to compete. By giving these players a platform, our school can establish a reputation for athletic excellence. Success on the court will bring positive recognition to our school, which can attract more community support and resources to enhance our education platform. This **initiative**^[★4] is not just for individual players; it is for the benefit of the entire school.

Finally, a basketball team will enhance our school's cultural diversity. Just as we celebrate multicultural speeches, we should embrace activities that bring different cultures together. A successful basketball program will make our school more attractive to families from various backgrounds. Increased multiculturalism brings new perspectives, diverse traditions, and unique skills to our community, enriching the environment for everyone.

In conclusion, the benefits of establishing a basketball team are abundantly clear. Your authority can make this positive change a reality, paving the way for a brighter future at CH Public School. Thank you for your time and consideration.

HOW TO SOLVE THE NO COACH PROBLEM

While I acknowledge a potential gap in these arguments, a viable solution exists. The lack of coaching can be easily addressed by utilising parent volunteers. To mitigate any reliability concerns, we can rely on teachers for supervision as PSSA coaching is relatively straightforward because these committed students already practice basketball weekly, if not daily. This high level of initiative makes coaching highly manageable, as the players can set and execute their own plays.

I really hope you add a basketball team because I only have year six to go and I would like to end it with a fun basketball team.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter more.

Sincerely,

Liam S, 5S

21/6/26

Annotation key

[!1] text_structure — Missing thesis

[★1] ideas

[★2] ideas

[★3] ideas

[★5] vocabulary

[!2] ideas — Lack of evidence

[★4] vocabulary

Exemplar rewrite — what one band higher could look like

A model rewrite of the same piece, aiming one band higher on the focus criteria. Use it to compare specific moves — sentence openers, word choice, cohesion — not as a text to copy.

Dear Mr Miller,

Imagine the excitement and benefits of adding a basketball team to CH Public School's PSSA program. I strongly believe that introducing basketball will enhance leadership skills, showcase talent, and promote cultural diversity.

Firstly, forming a basketball team will cultivate leadership skills among students. Without a formal coach, students can step up and lead, learning teamwork and responsibility. This experience prepares them for future roles, boosting our school's reputation.

Secondly, we have many talented players eager to compete. By providing them a platform, we can build a reputation for athletic excellence. Success on the court can attract community support, benefiting our school as a whole.

Lastly, a basketball team will enrich our school's cultural diversity. Just like multicultural events, basketball brings people together. This will make our school more appealing to families from diverse backgrounds, enhancing our community with new perspectives.

In conclusion, establishing a basketball team offers clear benefits. Your support can make this change happen, leading to a brighter future for CH Public School. Thank you for considering this opportunity.

Addressing the coaching issue, we can involve parent volunteers and teachers for supervision. Our committed students already practice regularly, making coaching manageable.

I hope you consider this proposal, as I look forward to enjoying my final year with a basketball team.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss further.

Sincerely, Liam S, 5S 21/6/26