

Feb. 9, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

When Logan Day asked me to write a letter of recommendation for him, I jumped at the chance. This is a kid, a force of nature, who is going to make an incredible impact on the world of journalism. But then I began thinking about Logan and the letter, and I started to second guess myself. You see, I am not sure I will be able to truly capture Logan's spirit in a mere letter. And his spirit is what makes him special.

I was fortunate to meet Logan last summer at the Gloria Shields' Summer Workshop, where he was interviewing for a scholarship. I'll be honest — on paper, Logan looked strong, with an impressive writing and photography portfolio. But so did every other candidate. It wasn't until he walked into the room that I saw the difference. There was an immediate spark — an energy that set him apart. What distinguished Logan wasn't just talent; it was his passion, his drive. I knew right then that he was someone who would make a difference, and he already has — within his school and his community. During the interview, Logan spoke about journalism with genuine reverence. He understands its power and why that power matters more than ever in today's world. That kind of passion can't be taught. It can't be manufactured or faked. It's real, and it's empowering.

And maybe just as impressive — Logan doesn't have parents who are cheering him on in this field. In fact, I am not too sure his father wants him to pursue journalism at all, but thank God, he's going to do it anyway.

Let's talk skills. Writer. Editor. Photojournalist. Videographer. Leader. Athlete. Honor student. Award winner. His resume and list of awards are a tad intimidating. Seriously, how does he find the time to do all of this? Logan is about as diverse as a journalist could be, and he gives 100 percent to everything he does — heart and brain. And what combination he has.

This kid can write. His voice is so distinct and so beautiful. He finds the story behind every face, and if you need proof, look at his yearbook stories. Typically, yearbook stories are a bit bland and a bit general — not Logan's. He finds the angle. He finds the faces. He does the reporting. And the result? A beautiful, well-written story that captures the moments of the year. He does the same and even more for his school online newspaper.

This kid can shoot. Logan started off as a photographer — and honestly, I am surprised he moved into writing. As an award-winning photographer, it would have been easy for Logan to stay in that lane and be quite successful. But he saw an opportunity for growth, and he jumped on it.

This kid can lead. Just a quick review of his portfolio shows solid evidence how he leveled up the media staffs at Caney Creek High School.

I don't write many letters of recommendations for high school students, but it is a privilege to write this one. You will not find a better candidate for the Texas Journalist of the Year. Logan has the talent, skills and drive — but most importantly, he has the heart.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions (512) 740.3463.

Jeanne Acton
Former ILPC director
Former UIL journalism director