

iQ Academy

Sample Letters to the Editor

The following are sample “Letters to the Editor” about online education. Feel free to use one of the letters below or write your own about your experience at iQ Academy. Once completed, please submit your letter to Anolan@muellercommunications.com, and we’ll take care of sending it in to your local newspaper. Please feel free to call us at 414-390-5500 with any questions. Thank you!

TOPIC #1: Advantages of being an online student

Even though I went to high school online, next month I will earn my high school diploma just like any other graduating senior.

I have had nothing but a positive experience attending high school online. I have taken the same core courses you would expect at any other school – Math, Science, Social Studies and English - but I also got to choose from a much longer list of electives like Mandarin Chinese and computer game design. Because I got to pick my courses from a wide variety of options, I actually enjoyed going to school, which I couldn’t say when I was in a regular high school.

In addition to the wide variety of courses, going to school online was great because I could set my own pace, learn the material thoroughly, and move on only after I had fully grasped the information. I was never afraid of holding back my classmates when I was struggling to understand something. Similarly, when I fully understood something quickly I could move on to the next topic without waiting for others to catch up.

iQ Academy gave me flexibility, a high-quality education, and a great support system of teachers and academic advisers, which has made all the difference in helping me reach my full potential, and earn my high school diploma.

TOPIC #2: Prepared for college

For the past X years, I have attended iQ Academy, an online high school. I think the most beneficial aspect of this for me is that it has thoroughly prepared me for heading off to college next fall.

The classes at iQ Academy were definitely challenging, and my teachers really made sure I fully understood the material in each subject before moving on to the next topic. The curriculum included a wide variety of courses to choose from, including AP courses, which really prepared me academically for the classes I’ll be taking in college.

Also, going to school online and setting my pace really helped me come into a sense of independence, which I know will help me as I move out on my own. Because I set my own pace in my classes, I was able to develop a lot of initiative. I had to get my work done on time and be sure I was keeping up with the pace I set at the beginning of my courses. My teachers and advisors were there to check in on me regularly, but after a while, I was able to keep myself on pace and on track by myself.

With the high-quality, challenging courses, and learning how to keep myself organized and on pace, I have really grown not just as a student, but as a person, and I feel fully prepared to head off to college in the fall.

TOPIC #3: AP and unique courses

Going to high school online was the best choice I've ever made, and I'm so excited to receive my high school diploma from iQ Academy next month! Going to school online allowed me to take a wide variety of challenging courses, from a list of staple courses like math, English, and science, to exciting and unique ones such as Advanced Placement courses, computer programming, and video game design.

I think my favorite course was <<insert unique course here>> because it allowed for me to use my creativity and express myself. Those types of courses aren't always offered in a regular school setting, so I'm grateful that I was able to enroll at iQ Academy and have access to those other options.

I think online education is a positive education option for many students, especially those who want to be challenged with AP courses, or have the flexibility to pursue unique courses. I hope more students will consider enrolling in online schools like iQ Academy because it really is a great way to make the most out of a high school education.

TOPIC #4: Pursue passions outside of school

Next month I graduate from iQ Academy, an online high school. I'm really grateful for the chance to have attended high school online, because the flexibility allowed me to pursue my hobbies and passions.

Not all high school students' schedules allow them to go to school during the typical hours. Some students are athletes or performers, and some teenagers are ill or disabled and just can't make it to school around a specific schedule.

For me, I was able to earn my high school diploma by going to school online while at the same time playing the violin with a professional orchestra. With most of the rehearsals taking place during the day, I needed a flexible school schedule so I wouldn't fall behind. iQ Academy was the perfect solution – I would practice and go to rehearsal in the morning, and go to class in the evening. I really got the best of both worlds – a high school experience as well as the chance to live out my dream of performing with an orchestra.

FROM PARENT

When I told my family and friends that my son was attending an online high school, some of them were enthused and wanted to know more about it. And some of them sneered at my decision and wanted to know what was wrong with the traditional way of learning.

Well, the traditional way was not working for my son; so I decided to find a school that would suit him, and <<Palmetto State E-cademy (PSE)>> was the perfect choice for him.

<<Palmetto State E-cademy>> is a public, tuition-free, online high school. <<PSE>> made it

possible for my son to learn at the time of day that he could do his best work. He was able to learn at a pace that suited him. He was able to attend and participate in activities, which would have been difficult to do in a traditional setting. Also, he did not have to worry about distractions from disruptive students.

There were many advantages for my son being able to attend high school online at <<PSE>>. To learn more so you can decide if it is the perfect choice for you, visit << www.psecademy.org >>.

FROM TEACHER

With the school year just around the corner, teachers, parents, and students alike are preparing to head back to school. For online teachers like me, back to school preparation is an exciting time! I became an online teacher because I love the flexibility of being able to tailor my lessons to my students, and devoting more time one-on-one to students who really need the extra attention. The online learning environment is a great fit for students who either prefer to work ahead of the curve and at their own excellent pace, or, for those students I am so passionate about teaching, who need a little extra one-on-one attention. The school at which I teach, the <<Minnesota Center of Online Learning <<MCoOL>>, is a public online school that offers a unique education option for students in grades K-12, rigorous curriculum, a wide variety of core and elective courses, and lessons toughed by <<Minnesota>>-licensed teachers who provide a high-quality education. Courses are taught live via the internet, providing small group instruction and one-on-one support from teachers.

Not all high school students' schedules allow them to go to school during the typical hours. Some students are athletes or performers, and some teenagers are ill or disabled and just can't make it to school around a specific schedule. These students are able to earn high school diplomas by going to school online while at the same time pursuing these extracurricular activities. With other activities taking place during the day, they need a flexible schedule, and for my own students, they have found <<MCoOL>> to be a perfect solution. The <<MCoOL>> is accepting enrollment for any K-12 student living in <<Minnesota>> until August 20 for either full- or part-time enrollment for the upcoming 2010-11 school year, which begins September 7. To learn more about <<MCoOL>>, you can visit << www.MCoOLSchool.org >>.