

Kristine Luna

Twelfth Grade

AVID

Kari and Keira Lynn Parker AVID Scholarship

Many people have come in and out of my life but few have made a difference. However, four years ago when I decided to join AVID, I met a person that motivated and pushed me to accomplish my goals. That person was Mrs. Parker, my AVID and English teacher. It did not take long for me to feel comfortable and close to her.

Mrs. Parker always had a positive attitude about everything, and seeing her made me have a positive attitude towards the things I was doing, as far as getting good grades. Not only was she so positive and enthusiastic about her job, she was always willing to help. Whenever any of her students needed help, she would without hesitation be there to assist. She also pushed us to work hard and she motivated us to focus on achieving our goal of going to college. My parents and family always encouraged me to do my best and motivated me to dream big. However, hearing the same words of encouragement from someone else other than a relative, like Mrs. Parker made me truly believe that I could accomplish anything I set out to do.

The passion that Mrs. Parker had towards helping her students and all her hard work is a quality that I hope to obtain when I become a Social Worker. The patience and the enthusiasm that Mrs. Parker showed me and her other students is what motivated to do something that would involve helping others. Mrs. Parker once told me that she was proud of everything that I had accomplished so far during my freshman and she also told

me that I had a positive attitude and I was an excellent role model. Hearing these words from her made me truly believe that I could really do something. I am the type of person to always doubt my abilities and having someone like Mrs. Parker gave me the strength and encouragement to know that I could do something to impact someone else's life.

Although Mrs. Parker is not here today, I know that she would very proud of her "AVID-lights" (that's what she called her AVID students). She called us her "light", however she was one of my "lights"; the light that gave me the strength to believe in myself and to believe that with determination and hard work I could accomplish anything I set out to do. AVID has helped me in many ways, and without it I really do think that I would not be going to a four year university. I am forever thankful that Mrs. Parker was willing to run the AVID program here at Great Oak. I am also thankful for all the dedication and hard work that she spent towards helping us get closer to accomplishing our dream. But, most importantly for the encouragement, support, and motivation that gave me and all her other students. Wherever I go, and whatever I become, Mrs. Parker will be part of my success and the person that I am today.