Emma Wyler: SHE’S AN ACTIVE ACTIVIST!

How long have you lived in the neighborhood? I moved here from New York City when I was 2.

Who is in your family? My mom Lisa, dad Bob and brother Ben. I’m so lucky to be close to my extended family, as well.

What school do you attend? Sammamish High School

What are your plans after high school? I plan to attend university/college and then pursue a job in social services, with a focus on climate and racial justice.

What sports, clubs, and extracurricular activities do you participate in? I play school soccer, basketball, and theater. I work with Planned Parenthood’s Teen Council, which I teach inclusive sex-ed. I’m also a part of the Eastside Change Coalition, a local group of youth activists fighting racism.

How did you get started with your activity? Well, I do quite a few activities, but I’ll share about Planned Parenthood’s Teen Council. They taught a consent lesson in my health class sophomore year with so much enthusiasm. I applied soon after and started my junior year.

What do you enjoy about your activity? It combines my passions for teaching, learning, and advocacy. As an extrovert, teaching in classrooms is especially fun. We lobby our representatives to mandate medically accurate sex-ed in Washington! Referendum 90, the bill we lobbied for, will be on your ballots this November. Vote approve! Informed teens make safe decisions.

Tell us something you achieved or some highlights of your experience so far in your sport/activity? Last year I had lots of fun, but this year I’m looking forward to taking more leadership roles. I already co-facilitated our first meeting, and I plan to go above and beyond, as the head of social media and by reaching out to new members to build community.

Is there something that makes you unique in this activity (a specific strength or quality you bring)? I’m an energetic person, and it’s magnified in groups, so presenting to the class is super fun. I would love to be a teacher when I grow up, because helping peers one-on-one is gratifying, and Teen Council has shown me presenting to the class is, too.

How do you keep a balance between school and other activities in your life? I listen to myself, and if I feel overwhelmed, I reduce the number of plans I have. But for the most part, it’s not a problem and doing lots of fun things often energizes me.

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