

Hello Mr. Severance,

I hope you are doing well, and I am extremely excited to be taking Calculus II with you. I was originally born in Madurai, India and moved to Minnesota, United States when I was around 3 years old. At the age of 5, I moved to Charlotte, North Carolina and have been there ever since. Someday I hope to live somewhere with easy access to the beach, especially since I love the ocean.

I would like to get a bachelor's and master's degree in a field of engineering after high school. Although, I am not confirmed as to what exactly I will major in, it will definitely be related to engineering and physics. As of right now, I have some schools in mind, but they are definitely extremely pricey.

My mother and father immigrated to the US since my father got a job in Minnesota, and they both work as software engineers. My sister is currently in elementary school, and I am definitely the closest with her in my family. A fun fact about my family is that we are all pretty tall. Since my family is from India and since I was born in India, my first language was Tamil. I am the oldest sibling, with a younger 10 year old sister. After moving to America, I was put into Tamil School along with regular education, in which I spent 9 years learning to fluently read, write, and speak in Tamil. I have also been in Spanish classes at school since 6th grade, but I am definitely not fluent yet. For fun, my family loves to do board game night with games like Sequence, especially with some of our close family friends. We also love to play Badminton and travel.

Outside of school, I spend most of my time hanging out with friends and family or playing the piano. Playing piano is super calming for me most of the time, since it allows me to relax my mind. When I am not at school, I really enjoy going to the gym, watching sports and movies, and reconnecting with friends back at home. Something I want to try is skateboarding, especially since it seems extremely fun. This summer I had an internship at a local software company and also hung out with my friends a lot before coming to NCSSM. Regarding traveling, my family and my cousins went to the Outer Banks for a week.

Growing up, I got into reading because of a bet me and my friend had to see who could finish the Harry Potter series the fastest. I loved fantasy books as a child, such as Harry Potter, Percy Jackson, Keeper of the Lost Cities, and more. If I read now, it can range from historical fiction to horror. Although I don't watch a lot of movies, I do watch TV series. Right now, I just finished Suits and Gossip Girl, and want to start Grey's Anatomy. For music, I typically listen to R&B or rap, listening to artists like Don Toliver and SZA.

As a math student, I would describe myself as liking math. My middle school math teacher, Dr. Kendrick played a huge role in my life regarding math. As I joined the math team, he pushed our team to excel, attending several math competitions like MathCOUNTS and MathCON. As a student generally, I have noticed that taking notes when learning a concept is important for me, but rewriting my notes as a study method doesn't work for me at all. Over the years, I love to do

active recall for classes that require you to know certain facts. Whereas, classes that focus on math, practice problems are the best way you can study.

Thank you,
Joanna Arul Jeeva