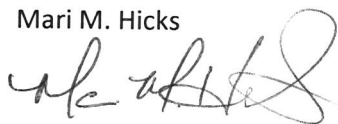


When I first learned about the Athletics & Beyond 7v7 program it was halfway through my son, Anthony, Junior year at Cherry Creek High School. Anthony had asked numerous times if he could be a part of 7v7. Due to my unfamiliarity with 7v7, I asked Anthony to provide me more detail. As a parent, I wasn't going to give consent to a program if I didn't know the necessities of what it consisted of and if my son could benefit from being involved. Anthony provided me the website and I began to read about all the amazing programs that Athletics & Beyond has to offer youth. Anthony is athletically driven and I knew that being a part of Athletics & Beyond would allow him to network with other youth that shared the same enthusiasm as he does. One of the components that stood out to me was the "Beyond" portion of the program. This was the area that I knew Anthony needed the most exposure to. Anthony is an outstanding athlete, but we knew that he would benefit from participating in the programs off the field. Due to Anthony becoming involved with Athletic & Beyond towards the end of the school year, we knew he had missed his chance to be a part of the "Beyond" portion. We knew it was still a great program to partake in, so we moved forward with allowing Anthony to join. When the opportunity became available for Anthony to travel to Florida at the beginning of summer, we were hesitant to have Anthony attend. Our reluctance was based on being able to finance Anthony's trip to Florida 100%. We understood this trip would be a once in a lifetime occasion for Anthony to travel to Florida and be a part of the NCAA college tour, but as parents, we weren't sure if we could provide Anthony this opportunity. Thankfully with the help of Coach Narcy and his staff, we were able to send Anthony to Florida. It truly was an experience that Anthony will never forget. As Anthony prepares to consider colleges, he can now include colleges based in Florida as an option. If it wasn't for Athletics & Beyond, this option wouldn't have been available to Anthony.

As parents, we are very proud of Anthony's involvement with Athletics & Beyond and extremely grateful for what Coach Narcy and his staff has done to allow Anthony's involvement possible. I do believe that the connection and exposure that Anthony has received while being involved with Athletics & Beyond has provided him an understanding of what will be expected of him when he attends college. As Anthony begins to prepare for his senior year of high school, we will encourage Anthony to remain connected to Athletics & Beyond throughout the school year. "Each one, teach one" is a motto that I believe in. With everything that Athletics & Beyond has offered Anthony it is only fitting that he pay it forward. We believe that his commitment to the program will continue to flourish and with the leadership of Coach Narcy I believe that great things will continue happen for Athletics & Beyond.

Mari M. Hicks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mari M. Hicks', written in a cursive style.

*Parent of Anthony K. Barron*