



DERRIGKA BALLARD



Contact JAEO

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Age 18 A-Tech/Conneaut High School

Overcoming challenges with grace and persistence has helped mold the fine young woman Derricka has turned out to be.

A dedication to her community during one of the most challenging times in history exemplifies the type of person Derricka is. She volunteered over 100 hours at a local food pantry during the Covid-19 pandemic, ensuring that those who needed help received it. Derricka also participates in a youth cheer camp in Conneaut, inspiring younger members of her community, instilling collaboration and teamwork in a positive environment. She is an active member of her church, and has also gained valuable work experience at Heavenly Creamery, Ashtabula Dental Associates, & Pet Supplies Plus.

In addition to cheerleading, Derricka also participates in track and volleyball. She is the class president in the Senior Health Care Academy at A-Tech, and has competed in SkilluSA Competitions, having finished second in the dental competition. She has also participated in the mikeroweWORKS Foundation, which helps people receive training for in-demand skilled jobs. A go-getter, Derricka has also obtained her dental radiography certificate in the state of Ohio.

Derricka possesses an exceptional work ethic, which helps her balance school, sports, and preparing for her future. She is a positive role model with strong leadership skills and a resilient spirit and is already far down the path of success.