

## **2017 Local Scholarship Application – Additional Essay**

**Scholarship:** Jack H. Marston II "Game On" Memorial

**Name:** Michael Setzke

### **Additional Essay:**

As a sixth grader, there were many things I thought I knew about myself. As I grew up, I found many of these were wrong. One thing that I was right about, though, was that I loved long distance running. This passion of mine has stuck with me as I have ran on the cross-country and track teams all four years of high school. When I was 12, I was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. Managing this disease is a daily challenge for me, but I have never let it hold me back from doing what I love. I have never let the disease be an excuse for not reaching my goals from practice to practice or season to season. With my "game on" mentality, I reached my goals of making the varsity team and running a mile under five minutes. My enthusiasm for running was recognized by my teammates, as they voted me a captain of the cross country and track teams. In everything I do, I try to keep a positive attitude. Staying optimistic is energizing for myself and the people around me. In school, staying focused is key, and I have learned how to keep my focus so that I can work efficiently and balance my school life with extra-curriculars. As I continue to discover who I am and what I am passionate about, I am keeping an open mind, prepared to take advantage of any opportunity that comes my way. Life is an adventure, and with my hard work and positive energy, I will continue to take it on!