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University of Wisconsin
Eau Claire



March 31, 2021

Members of the Badger Boys State site selection committee,

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire's well-rounded academic mission, focus on developing active citizens, and capacity for hosting unforgettable events is a perfect fit for a rigorous, life-changing program like Badger Boys State. It is with great enthusiasm that I pledge my wholehearted support to our bid to become the new home of this annual transformative program.

I firmly believe there is no other university in Wisconsin better equipped to maintain and enhance the impressive impact of Badger Boys State. UW-Eau Claire prides itself on offering students high-impact experiences inside and outside of the classroom, so that no single viewpoint dominates their perception of the world as they encounter it. Recognizing we all play a role in making the world a better place, and that all perspectives are needed to move Forward, is a foundational part of the Excellence for which our graduates are known.

Several of our campus leaders are Badger Boys State alumni—and I attended boys state in Minnesota—and we can attest firsthand to the clear alignment between our university's values and those of boys state. Both intentionally create space for dialogue and deliberation, fostering respect and promoting equity, diversity and inclusion as foundations of productive public debate. These skills still serve us well, and being the host campus for your program would only amplify the positive impact our institution seeks to have on the world.

If selected as the next host of your event, UW-Eau Claire is prepared to further incentivize participation in Badger Boys State through annual commitment of \$10,000 to scholarships for your alumni. Additionally, Wisconsin's Most Beautiful Campus is well-equipped to handle the scope and needs of your event, and our stellar camps and conferences staff will ensure you receive the attention and service you require.

Badger Boys State is already a launchpad for inquisitive thinkers and public service-minded advocates. UW-Eau Claire stands committed to the values of Badger Boys State and ready to serve as the next home for this enduring, transformative program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James C. Schmidt".

James C. Schmidt
Chancellor