



Senior Profile  
2020-2021  
Zarek Blair

Senior Zarek Blair's journey at LEAF Charter School began with a google search for schools in the area. Zarek liked "how small LEAF was. It was a lot different than my old school. I liked how open it was. There was more diversity in each area. Each classroom was unique. The teachers seemed really nice."

Humanities teacher Chris Becker is Zarek's favorite teacher. "I am into history and politics and Chris is the history teacher so we are able to have good conversations about those topics. We both also like rap music so we talk about that and we share bands that we really like."

Chris Becker was also the Model U.N. teacher. "I really liked Model U.N. We learned about world situations. I liked learning about Kashmir. In Model UN, I represented China. I had to figure out how to represent my own morals but have my ideas still make sense for China. Chris also shared with me the Political Compass test in Model U.N. This helped me learn more about my political beliefs. I found this really interesting."

Humanities teachers Chris Becker and Hillary O'Malley work together to make the units fluid. I always looked forward to the class discussions. They supported me in doing projects I really liked."

Zarek says he also really liked the Becoming Your Best Self and the Nature Walk classes. "It is really hard to pick just one favorite class at LEAF."

Zarek's dream job would be something in politics. "I would like to change things and make them more equitable around the world. I would love to have a job where I can interact with people and help people."

After graduation, Zarek plans to work for a year or two and then go to Germany to attend university.

Exhibit night stands out as a favorite memory. "I liked presenting my anti-slavery speech." He also thinks that "Prom was really nice. It was the first time I ever got formally dressed up. I have also enjoyed lunch times at LEAF where I have been able to hang out with friends."

LEAF is a special place. Zarek explains "everyone is friends with everyone. LEAF is very small. Teachers are less formal. I like being able to call teachers by their first names. The teachers are here to help and teach me."

His parting advice to future LEAF students is, "Don't worry too much about school. School work is doable. Try not to be afraid to talk to people because most people are pretty nice including the teachers."