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May 7, 2007

Oak Meadow School  
23574 County Line Rd.  
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Attn: Terrence Kenney, Director

Dear Mr. Kenney:

Well, it is almost the end of another year and I would like to thank you so much for accepting my children into your school in the middle of the school year, January 10, 2005. I was at my wit's end. At my children's previous school, the parents were running the school without the proper credentials and the principal was no more than a puppet. When she finally figured it out, just before Christmas break in 2004, she gave her two weeks notice and left the school. I decided my children had gone through enough change due to parents trying to administrate the school by bullying the teachers and the principal.

My oldest daughter, as you know, had been scheduled for testing by the school psychologist because her third grade teacher looked at her performance since kindergarten and wanted her tested for gifted classes and my other daughter had just finished second grade and had also been scheduled for gifted classes. While waiting for her test, my older daughter entered the fourth grade and went from the third grade in which there were no more than 16 students in her class, into the fourth grade in which there were 37 students, not to mention that the fourth grade teacher was a seriously unstable person who had run away from home at 17, wore her hair a different color every September on the first day of school, and many parents tried to get her dismissed that year because she was so unstable and out of 37 children, really played the "favorites" game, which my older daughter just would not subscribe for, so after being a high achieving student, she just dug in her heels and did not do much of anything because she did not like being treated so dismissively by a teacher. As a result, the teacher felt and stated to me that she felt my daughter was below grade level in reading and writing, after all her previous teachers the first four years of school had spoken of how advanced she was.

I came to you in desperation, because I did not know what my options were for fifth grade and after that, middle school. I already had two adult children that had attended public school through high school graduation, they had been straight "A" students through elementary school and my son was on honor roll through middle school, graduating Portola Middle School with a 4.0 average and the President's Academic Fitness Award.

After entering El Camino High School, the supposed winner every year of the National Academic Decathlon, my older daughter barely graduated with a "C" average and my son failed to graduate at all, quite possibly because he was taking

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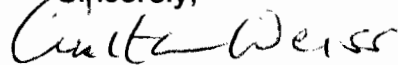
mostly "AP" classes and was bored out of his mind, so he just stopped attending. Since he was living with his father at the time, I had no control over the matter, but I can tell you it broke my heart, and I vowed it would never happen again to me, but I was not actually sure how I could make that happen until I heard about your school from the parents of a previous graduate, both parents being attorneys.

I really feel that your school saved my children's and my emotional life. After changing my children to your school, my older daughter started thinking critically again and writing above grade level, and my younger daughter skipped a grade. I credit all of these wonderful things to you and your talented, motivational teachers. My daughters, who previously would do anything to avoid school suddenly wanted to go to school everyday, and much to my dismay, when I had a surgery in February, 2006 and my doctor told me not to drive for two weeks, I was thinking my children could study at home during my recovery, and they insisted that I drive them to school. I simply could not believe it.

The potential stress of wondering what I would do about my children's education has completely ended, and it was the greatest stress I endured, after my son dropped out. The thing is, there are private schools everywhere, and as you well know, I can afford anywhere I want to go, BUT, and that is a very big BUT, I feel it is a supreme waste of money to pay \$15,000 to \$20,000 per year per child for private school. After all, I already pay \$12,000 property taxes per year for a school system that I feel is unusable and unacceptable for my family. Almost all of my friends whose children went to elementary school with my children now have their children in the public school system for middle and high school and I simply cannot relate in this letter they problems they are having, and these are good families with good children. In the public school system, children learn that if they don't want to perform, no one will make them, they can simply "fall through the cracks" and no one cares. I just read an article in the LA Times last week about the lack of people wanting to be teachers anymore because of the prevailing rude attitudes of children in public schools, so the teachers just give up or quit, and our children fall through cracks because nobody cares.

I feel so blessed to have you and your teachers as part of our family team. I like the two week meetings, so that a parent can, if necessary, find out that their child is not performing before a third of the year has gone by and you get the first progress report. No one gets by with slacking in your school without the parents knowing, and that is what I like, the continual rapport that exists between the school and the parents. Our family thanks you so much for your's and your staff's caring attitudes and talented teaching meathods for children that helps keep children from getting bored, or some children who have to struggle due to learning disabilities and in some schools would fall through the cracks or just give up. I have already recommended your school to my niece, and her mother, who is a teacher in the Los Angeles Catholic Diocese, is very happy also. It's too bad more people don't know what a treasure your school is for children.

Sincerely,



Anita and Sammy Weiss

