

July 6, 2015

Jay Hansen, School Board Member
Sacramento City Unified School District
5735 47th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824

Dear Mr. Hansen,

I am pleased to write this letter in support of Food Literacy Center's proposal to become the lead organization on the Leataata Floyd Project. Their good work and strong results in the Sacramento area have been a source of pride for those of us in the field of edible education. I feel confident in their ability to bring a powerful program to the students and schools associated with the project.

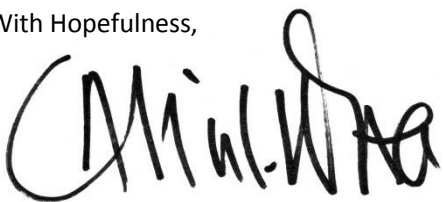
In 1996, I founded the Edible Schoolyard Project, a non-profit in Berkeley, California. Our mission at the Edible Schoolyard Project is to build and share a national edible education curriculum for pre-kindergarten through high school. We envision gardens and kitchens as interactive classrooms for all academic subjects and a free, nutritious, organic lunch for every student. We believe that integrating this curriculum into schools can transform the health and values of every child in America.

Together with Jaime Oliver, Ann Cooper and members of the California Endowment, I first became familiar with Food Literacy Center in January during a school site visit to Pacific Elementary – one of the Center's programs in your district. Students from the program showed off cooking skills they learned with help from the program's trained Food Genius instructors, and they prepared a beautiful, healthy meal for everyone to share. We were so pleased to see such a well-established and successful program first-hand. The students not only cooked a lovely meal, but they also shared what they learned in the program. They were clearly retaining the knowledge they had learned, a clear marker of success for this type of hands-on education.

Since January, we have continued to strengthen our relationship with Food Literacy Center. Recently, we provided several scholarships to attend our annual week-long Edible Schoolyard Academy, a competitive training program for cooking and garden instructors from around the world. Food Literacy Center's executive director and program officer received in-depth training on the best practices we've developed over twenty years. We know they will put these skills to good use with the students in Sacramento and we intend to remain in communication to help foster their success. Sacramento is a key region for demonstrating the importance of cooking and gardening education in schools!

I wholly recommend Food Literacy Center as your lead organization for this project. Thank you for your consideration.

With Hopefulness,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alice Waters". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "W".

Alice Waters

Proprietor, Chez Panisse Restaurant & Cafe
Founder, The Edible Schoolyard Project