

February 21, 2020

RE: *Joy of Reading* Program

I have participated as a reader at the Pueblo Day School, with first- through third- grade learners, since the program began in April 2017. As a former special education social worker, I know firsthand the value that one-on-one mentoring can provide. It has been, and is, immensely satisfying for me to witness children, with whom I have had the privilege to work, develop comprehension and skill at the important work of learning to read.

In all ways, the *Joy of Reading* readers promote a positive attitude toward books and their importance in opening young minds to the world. We direct each child to choose a book based on their interest. At intervals, they also pick a book to take home to encourage family members to read with them. Having a variety of books and being able to replenish our supply is vital to the program. We often have a brief group sharing at the end of the reading time, to encourage comprehension and confidence.

When appropriate, we communicate with classroom teachers about their concerns. The teachers have expressed gratitude for this added bonus to their work. So, it seems to me, that this is a win-win-win effort that I am glad to be part of.

Sincerely,
Justine Greif