

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of the reading volunteer program, Joy of Reading. I am a teacher at Taos Day School located on the Pueblo of Taos. Our school serves Native American students not only from our pueblo but other tribes as well. Native students generally come into the school setting significantly lower than their non-Native peers. This is why the Joy of Reading volunteer program is so important to our school.

In partnership with JOR program I have seen my students reading ability increase within the months that my students are being mentored. Their scores have always increased and last year over all 80% of my class achieved their targeted reading levels. Even more importantly their confidence as a reader became more and more apparent as the months went by.

My students looked forward to reading with their friends on a weekly basis and they also received a book of their choice to take home to share with their families. The volunteers took care and attention with every child that they worked with and my students glowed with pride upon returning to our classroom.

The Joy of Reading provides so much more than can be expressed. I am looking forward to working with the amazing volunteers and coordinator of this wonderful program. I am hoping their funding will be available in order to continue their work.

With good thought and much gratitude,

Nola Romeo-Miller

Taos Day School

First Grade Teacher