



# Jefferson Union High School District

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES – SERRAMONTE DEL REY

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Michael J. Crilly  
Superintendent

May 31, 2005

Mr. Spencer Holeman  
Children's Empowerment, Inc.  
5401 Mission Street  
Daly City, California 94112-3739

Dear Spencer:

As we get closer to the conclusion of this school year, I wanted to thank you for the wonderful service provided to Jefferson High School through Children's Empowerment. Over the last several years, you have become a very key component of the support services provided to Jefferson students, so much so that you have become like part of the staff. Whether it is the "School Within a School," outreach to T.R. Pollicita Middle School, or the after-school "Homework Center," the impact of Children's Empowerment is strong and very real.

Interestingly, the positive impact of your work has also been felt by students in a much broader manner than you envisioned. Most commonly, we believe the benefit is focused only on those struggling students who need extra help. However, those who are providing the tutoring help and are paid through your agency are also beneficiaries of the program. This was brought home to me very clearly when, while reviewing scholarship applications for the Daly City-Colma Chamber of Commerce, I read Jefferson Senior John Lagman's application. In response to a question concerning "What ways do you contribute back to your community?" John responded,

*"I feel honored to be working as a peer tutor in my high school's after school program. As a tutor, I aid my fellow students with their class assignments. In helping them understand their assignments, I also help raise their confidence to succeed academically. Furthermore, my tutoring will hopefully convince others that education is a key to many doors. My work is important to me because my school has a reputation for low test scores. Tutoring provides an opportunity to inspire others and prove that it's a mistake to underestimate the students of Jefferson."*

John's response speaks volumes about Children's Empowerment's impact beyond simply understanding more about a math formula, an English assignment or a science concept. His words speak about how he has also been empowered. John Lagman was not the only student who mentioned Children's Empowerment. Several other applicants also mentioned tutoring in the after school tutorial program and how their work made a difference not only to those they tutored, but to them personally.

As the summer progresses, I look forward to seeing the impact of our summer support to struggling incoming freshmen. Once again, Children's Empowerment's presence will be felt not only on those who need the help, but very consciously by those offering to help.

Thanks for your continued support of Jefferson High School's students.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Crilly  
Superintendent