

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Carolyn Sutter and I am writing this email in support of Jana Din and her Child Development and Careers with Children Pathway Program. I graduated from Galt High School in 2006 after taking two courses with Mrs. Din. As a high school student, I did not know much about the career path I wanted to pursue. Mrs. Din's courses helped me to discover the passion I have for studying child development. These courses provide an excellent introduction to child development and careers working with children that are based in developmental research. Through opportunities to work with children in classroom settings, students are able to see the concepts they learn about in class come to life, reinforcing classroom learning and building a base of knowledge that students can carry with them into future careers and education around child development and early childhood learning.

This was certainly the case in my experience. After graduating from Galt High School, I went on to attend UC San Diego where I majored in Human Development with a minor in Education Studies. As an undergraduate, I was able to build on the knowledge and experience imparted by Mrs. Din's classes. I often felt a step ahead of classmates because of the skills I gained from Mrs. Din's courses. After graduating from UC San Diego, I continued my education at UC Davis where I received my Masters in Child Development. Currently, I am one year away from receiving my PhD in Human Development with a focus on children's developing eating behaviors in elementary schools.

I firmly believe that my experiences in Mrs. Din's courses started me on this career path and without them my career trajectory may have been different. I strongly support this program and the role it can play in helping students begin important careers in child development. In my 6 years of experience teaching undergraduate students studying child development at UC Davis, I can say that they do not always get experiences learning about child development and seeing it in practice such as those that are provided in Mrs. Din's courses. I hope that this program will continue to be valued in your district.

Sincerely,

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