

June 30, 2015

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

Dear Mr. Hansen,

We are 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 teaching cooking and gardening to students. We feel confident in their ability to bring a strong program to the youth in the schools associated with the project.

Edible Schoolyard is a nonprofit in Berkeley, California with the mission to build and share an edible education curriculum for kindergarten through high school. We have successfully operated the Edible Schoolyard at Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School for twenty years and are a leader in the field of cooking and gardening education. Chef Alice Waters spearheaded this project and continues to lead us in building networks throughout the country, because we believe every child deserves access to healthy food education.

We first became familiar with Food Literacy Center this January when Chef Alice Waters joined Chef Jamie Oliver, Chef Ann Cooper and The California Endowment on a school visit to one of Food Literacy Center's programs in your district. While at Pacific Elementary, students from the program showed off cooking skills they learned with help from the program's trained Food Genius instructors. They prepared a beautiful, healthy meal for all in attendance. We were pleased to see a well-established program reaching success with these children. The youth 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, an important part of this type of hands-on education.

Since January, we have built a stronger relationship with Food Literacy Center. Last week we provided scholarships for them to attend our 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. We intend to remain in communication to help foster their success, because we also believe that Sacramento is a key region for demonstrating the importance of strong cooking and gardening education in schools.

We strongly recommend Food Literacy Center as your lead organization for this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,