



San Diego Unified

SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF LANGUAGE ACQUISITION
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Office of Language Acquisition
Teresa Walter
Director

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of Skye Cooke-Piñon. She has worked for San Diego Unified School District for the past three years as a teacher in the district's newly created New Arrival Center. The New Arrival Centers are highly specialized programs designed for secondary students who are brand new to the United States and also new to English. Ms. Cooke-Piñon was instrumental in assisting in setting up the program as well as teaching in the program at two different high schools.

Ms. Cooke-Piñon worked in collaboration with other NAC teachers and central office staff to develop the program, including assisting in developing curriculum, identifying appropriate materials and resources, participating in professional development, and refining practice. She provided instruction, advocacy, and support for students and their families as they entered the program throughout the school years.

It is unfortunate that district budget cuts and seniority rules resulted in a lay-off notice for Ms. Cooke-Piñon. It was my hope that she continue teaching in the New Arrival Centers and I regret that she cannot continue her work with us.

Ms. Cooke-Piñon demonstrates genuine care for students and their families and brings a range of experience and professional expertise. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Teresa Walter