November 29, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

Homewaters Project is pleased to confirm our participation in the project entitled *Today's Student ~ Tomorrow's Teacher: Exploring Issues in Urban Education*. Our organization supports the goals of the project and views it as an exciting opportunity to increase the diversity of classroom teachers in local schools.

For over half a decade, Our "Land and Water" field science program has been popular, effective, and highly regarded. It provides a vital practicum for teachers-in-training to understand and experience student/class management, field science instruction, and basic environmental education principles.

For this particular project, we have allocated staff time in the summer of 2008 to tailor our "Land and Water" curriculum to this project, plan a detailed and comprehensive-yet-concise training for the teaching candidates, deliver the training sessions, and lead two field science delivery days at Thornton Creek near Meadowbrook Community Center in urban Seattle.

We look forward to an exciting partnership and to the opportunity to share our passion for and excellence in field science instruction with deserving teaching candidates.

Sincerely,

Chris Page
Executive Director
November 15, 2007

Washington Professional Educator Standards Board
Attn: Mea Moore
Old Capitol Building
600 Washington Street, Rm. 249
P.O. Box 47236
Olympia, WA 98504-7236

Dear Ms. Moore,

The NSCC Education Fund is pleased to support North Seattle Community College’s application for the Recruiting Washington Teachers grant.

Every year, NSCC’s Education Fund awards grants and scholarships to hundreds of academically gifted and financially needy students. We are proud to report that for the past two years, every student who qualified for financial assistance was awarded support for the academic year. We are therefore confident in our ability to leverage the success of our scholarship fund in support of students in the proposed Today’s Student ~ Tomorrow’s Teacher program.

Our board members are strong supporters of the goals of this grant: diversifying the future K-12 teaching corps and expanding higher education access for high school students from underrepresented communities. As such, we are pleased to offer students who participate in the program the opportunity to qualify for Education Fund scholarships while they are still in high school. Students awarded funding through demonstrated financial need may then defer the scholarship until enrolling the following year at NSCC.

We hope that the combination of Education Fund early scholarship awards and the significant program supports planned through the grant provide a powerful motivator for students. It is our goal that every qualifying student successfully completing the Today’s Student ~ Tomorrow’s Teacher program will be able to enroll at NSCC with their financial needs met.

We are honored to contribute to the success of this innovate project and wish you the best in your work on behalf of Washington’s education community.

Sincerely,

Stanley Diddams
Chair, Board of Directors

Meredith E. Brown, CFRE
Executive Director, NSCC Education Fund
North Seattle Community College – Western Washington University
Math and Science Teacher Preparation Partnership

Purpose:
To prepare highly qualified teachers from underrepresented communities with enhanced content knowledge in science and mathematics

Curriculum:
NSCC Associates of Science Degree that meets DTA requirements for WWU general education courses and course work that meets the state competencies for elementary teachers

AND

WWU Seattle-based Bachelor of Education with a major in special education and K-8 endorsement.

Vision Statement
North Seattle Community College (NSCC) and Western Washington University (WWU) are creating an innovative partnership that will shepherd a cohort of diverse underrepresented students working to achieve a teaching degree in elementary education with a focus on math, science and special education. In this partnership, NSCC will provide the first two years of education leading to an AA or AS degree. Students in the cohort who successfully complete their two year degree will transfer into the elementary program of WWU.

A team of faculty from NSCC and WWU are working collaboratively to develop new and modify existing curriculum so that all requirements are met according to the newly developed competencies in elementary education and build on the successful pedagogies like learning communities and inquiry based learning. This new partnership supports the unmet need for trained elementary education math, science and special education teachers. The two schools are developing a shared recruitment plan.
Washington Professional Educator Standards Board
Attn: Mea Moore
Old Capitol Building
600 Washington Street, Rm. 249
P.O. Box 47236
Olympia, WA 98504-7236

Dear Ms. Moore,

The YMCA of Greater Seattle Black Achievers Program is pleased to partner with the *Today's Student—Tomorrow's Teacher: Exploring Issues in Urban Education* project. Through our significant connections with African American high school youth, we pledge to help identify and support interested students to enter the program.

Our office is based at the Meredith Mathews East Madison YMCA with program components delivered both on site and at Garfield, Franklin, Cleveland and Rainier Beach High Schools. Our program offers high school youth opportunities to explore career options, develop leadership skills, prepare for college and participate in service learning and social activities. Through Program activities and experiences, our participants:

- develop positive relationships with caring adults
- set high academic expectations for themselves
- strengthen their cultural competence and self-esteem
- improve their skills in planning and decision making
- acquire an optimistic view of their personal futures.

We support the *Today's Student—Tomorrow's Teacher: Exploring Issues in Urban Education* project’s goal of increasing the number of underrepresented, multicultural and multilingual teachers in our schools. We are excited about being a partner in this project.

Thank you,

Shomari Jones
Sr. Director
Black Achievers Program
Meredith Mathews East Madison YMCA
1700 23RD AVE
Seattle, WA 98122
206-322-6969 X104
Cell: 206-351-2520
Fax: 206-322-6868
sjones@seattleymca.org
November 29, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

Salmon Bay, K-8 school, has been fortunate to have had the opportunity to have tutors from North Seattle Community College come and assist our Middle Schoolers. As a school, in the eyes of some, we have great test scores, when looking deeper you see a pattern of low Math scores across the grades K-8, and more importantly we see that we still have an achievement gap with our students of color. We are not a school that is given or can fund extra help for many of our students. The opportunity we have built for our students of color and our low socioeconomic students has been amazing. Approximately 10-12 students have benefited from Math tutors coming to work with them twice a week. I have teachers, parents and even students asking for more tutors. We would love to be involved in the Today’s Student- Tomorrow’s Teacher program where we could provide experience to high school students considering teaching as a profession, as well as offering support to our students.

Sincerely,

Michelle Ota
Assistant Principal
Salmon Bay K-8
252-1736
Washington Professional Educator Standards Board  
Attn: Mea Moore  
Old Capitol Building  
600 Washington Street, Rm. 249  
P.O. Box 47236  
Olympia, WA 98504-7236  

Dear Ms. Moore,

Campaña Quetzal is a coalition of parents, youth, individuals, educators and organizations committed to unleashing the academic and personal potential of each Latino student and eliminating the academic achievement gap. We are pleased to partner in the Today's Student Tomorrow's Teacher: Exploring Issues in Urban Education program. Through collaborative work in support of our common goals, I believe we can transform the education landscape in Seattle for current and future generations.

Campaña Quetzal works to educate and engage the Latino community in Seattle on educational issues by running youth programs, holding parenting workshops and convening community forums. To learn more about our programs I encourage you to visit our website at www.campanaquetzal.org.

Through our existing outreach at Chief Sealth and West Seattle High School, we will help identify candidates for the Today's Student ~ Tomorrow's Teacher program. We pledge to widely disseminate information about the opportunity across the communities we serve.

Campaña Quetzal understands the critical importance of a strong and diverse teaching corps. We are excited about being a partner in this project as we share the common goal of increasing the number of underrepresented, multicultural and multilingual teachers in our schools.

Thank you,

Maria G. Ramirez  
Campaña Quetzal  
Co-Executive Director  
206-218-9650  
mariagramirez@mac.com
Washington Professional Educator Standards Board  
Attn: Mea Moore  
Old Capitol Building  
600 Washington Street, Rm. 249  
P.O. Box 47236  
Olympia, WA 98504-7236

Dear Ms. Moore,

As principal of Sealth High School, I am pleased to express my commitment to support the *Today's Student ~Tomorrow's Teacher: Exploring Issues in Urban Education* project by encouraging Sealth High School students to take part in the program. The project’s goal of increasing the number of underrepresented, multicultural and multilingual teachers in our schools is one in which I see great value and desperate need as the principal of a school serving predominantly underrepresented, multicultural and multilingual students.

I am pleased to see one of my most committed and effective staff members, Sealth High School Counselor Kory Kumasaka, has been recruited to play a critical role in the project. I am also impressed with the strength of the cadre of Community Based Organization that has committed to partner in the project and look forward to strengthening our connection and relationships to those organizations.

I strongly support the *Today's Student ~Tomorrow’s Teacher: Exploring Issues in Urban Education* project’s goal of increasing the number of underrepresented, multicultural and multilingual teachers in our schools. I also see it as a great opportunity for our students and pledge to help identify and support interested students to enter the program.

Thank you,

John Boyd  
Principal  
Chief Sealth High School  
206-252-8550
Work Experience:

**Equity and Race Relations Specialist** Seattle Public Schools 2006 to present

Responsible for development and implementation of programs to increase the cultural competence of SPS staff and reduce institutional racism in SPS. Collaborations include: Central office, school based, and District wide workshops on American Ethnic Studies, What is Cultural Competence, Working with African American Families, and Strategies for Closing the Achievement Gap. Promoting the formation of Student Equity Teams to increase student voice around issues of equity and improving instruction.

**Instructional Services School Coach** Seattle Public Schools 2003-2006

Part of Science Leadership Team formed to develop strategic plan for improving science education at SPS. Worked with science teachers to improve instruction and close the achievement gap. Developed and presented a variety of professional development workshops. As a member of the high school team I collaborated on projects from teacher support to program development to school wide structural change.

**Science Teacher** various institutions 1987-2003

15 years teaching grades 7-12 science in public and private institutions in Seattle, WA, Atlanta, GA and Curacao, Netherlands Antilles. Courses include General Science, MESA, Biology (IB and general), Chemistry (IB and general), and Physics Experience with writing my own curriculum and following a standards based curriculum.

**Education:**

University of Washington- Seattle, WA MEd. Curriculum and Instruction 8/91
Fellow, Ford Fellows Science/ Math Project

Teaching Certification Program Washington State Certificate 4-12 Science

Harvard University –Cambridge, MA BA Biology, 10/79
Washington Professional Educator Standards Board
Old Capitol Building
600 Washington Street, Rm. 249
P.O. Box 47236
Olympia, WA 98504-7236

November 29, 2007

Dear Ms. Moore:

On behalf of North Seattle Community College, I would like to express my support for the Recruiting Washington Teachers proposal that is being submitted to the Professional Educator’s Standards Board.

The North Seattle Community College partnership with Western Washington University College of Education provides a solid backdrop for the goals of this proposal. The new pathway in elementary education teacher preparation with a focus in math and science content draws on the unique skills of each of our institutions. With focused outreach at area high schools to recruit diverse students into the teaching profession and with the support of multiple community partners working collaboratively to ensure student success, I am confident we will positively impact the future talent pool of educators in our region.

The goals of the Today’s Student – Tomorrow’s Teacher: Exploring Issues in Urban Education project are principles we value deeply at North Seattle Community College. Our mission statement: Changing Lives through Education defines our work each day. We are proud to be a partner in this innovative program.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald H. LaFayette Ed.D.
President