

December 2, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,

Please accept my apologies for the late arrival of these letters. Time has flown since our visit to the North Carolina Alternative Education Conference; and I truly apologize for these letters being mailed so late.

However, I do want to thank you personally, as the Mount Vernon Boosters' teacher, for inviting my students to participate. They each received something positive from the experience.

My hope is that these letters encourage you and your staff to continue the good work of uplifting and educating our students.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ricci Trawick". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Mrs. Ricci Trawick

November 10, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,

My name is Nataly Camacho, and I am a Booster student at Mount Vernon. I wanted to say thank you for letting the Boosters go to the Alternative Education Conference.

I have to say I have good teachers and principals; they do good things for the entire school and all the students. After attending the workshop in the room HOPE, I learned that principals in an alternative school have a lot of work to do around the school.

I'm thankful that my class of Boosters was allowed to go to the conference all together. The Pledge of Allegiance was hard to do; I was nervous that I was going to mess up. But the food was great, and I loved the coffee. It was so good I think I had three cups.

Thank you again for letting us come and represent other alternative school students in the county.

Sincerely,

Nataly

Nataly Camacho Velazquez

November 9, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,

Hello, Dr. Johnson-Green. My name is Tonatiuh Silva, and I'm a student at Mount Vernon in a program called the Booster program. I wanted to thank you for letting my class go to the North Carolina Alternative Education Conference on Friday.

When I went to the first session of the conference, I learned that some other schools have alternative programs that do things differently than our school. There was a school that took away ISS from their program and called it "I Care." It helped students get help with their classwork or homework; and if they finished everything they had to do, they could go back to class the next day. I also learned that the other schools do activities, like community service for college credit, painting murals for their school, and playing Japanese drums.

My favorite part of the day was getting to eat the delicious lunch and dessert that you served to us; and the coffee was good too. I also want to thank you for letting us lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Thanks for letting the Boosters have a new experience and providing food for us, which again was delicious. My classmates and I had a great time; we learned a lot of new things about alternative schools and how we can improve ours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tonatiuh Silva". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Tonatiuh Silva

November 10, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Bo 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson- Green,

My name is Diana Fajardo, but everyone knows me as Ivelt. I am a Booster student at Mount Vernon. I wanted to thank you for inviting my class of Boosters to the North Carolina Alternative Education Conference.

I learned lots of things, but the main thing I have learned is how hard the teachers and principals work to help students. I learned how they help kids that need help or don't have a chance in school because of their problems. They give them a chance to change it and help them. A quote that I remember is, "I will let you quit, but I won't let you fail."

I am thankful that my class had the opportunity to experience the conference together. I am thankful for the food—it was my favorite part of the day.

Again, thank you for the opportunity for my Booster class to participate and represent other alternative school students. We had a great time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diana Fajardo S." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Diana Fajardo

November 10, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,

My name is Elia Salazar, and I am in the Booster Program at Mt. Vernon. I ought to thank you for inviting my class to attend to such an important event. I was honored to take notes and learn more about the North Carolina Alternative Education Conference. I learned multiple things!

I acknowledge that I need to be more open-minded to the hard work my teachers and principals perform. I learned that alternative schools are growing and becoming more known. After attending one of the workshop sessions, I became aware of an issue that should be adjusted in a different manner. For example, a participant and a presenter were being confrontational with each other. So, I learned that that behavior is not appropriate in front of others.

I am grateful that my class had the opportunity to experience the conference together. I was very nervous to present The Pledge of Allegiance, but it wasn't bad after all. I will share that I felt like home with the staff, who were very polite. I was also thankful for the lunch; it was delicious.

We had a blast!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elia".

Elia Salazar

November 10, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,

Hi, my name is Javier Osorio, and I am a Booster student at Mount Vernon. I want to thank you for inviting my class to the conference.

I learned many important things at this conference, such as some programs that other counties do. One thing that I like that they did was the Breakfast Program. Another program that I liked was the Support Service program. I think that this conference was a good idea to gather other information and ideas that other counties had to offer.

I thank you for the chance to attend this conference. I was a bit nervous talking to other people—especially when we had to get up on stage and say The Pledge of Allegiance. After we finished, we went back to eating, which gave me a chance to calm down. I also want to thank you for the food and the dessert. It was really good!

Once again, thank you for giving us a chance to get out of school for a day and go to this conference. We had a blast.

Sincerely,



Javier Osorio-Jaimes

November 10, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,

My name is Jaqueline Molina Juarez, and I am a Booster student at Mount Vernon. I just wanted to say thank you for inviting us to the North Carolina Alternative Education Conference. It was awesome, and I learned a lot.

I learned that all of the teachers and principals do their best to help students succeed. Teachers say, "We can let them quit but not fail." Now I see how you all are trying to help students by teaching them more and helping them succeed.

I am thankful that you allowed us attend to the conference and that you all provided great snacks. I admit that my heart was pounding so hard while doing The Pledge of Allegiance, but I was pretty happy about it afterwards. I really liked the lunch; it was so good and the coffee was spectacular.

Once again, thank you for letting us, the Boosters, attend. It was nice to attend to an alternative conference; we had a great time.

Sincerely,


Jaqueline Molina Juarez

November 6, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson- Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,


My name is Remy hall, and I am a Booster student at Mount Vernon. I want to thank you for letting me and my classmates attend the Alternative Education Conference.

I have learned different ways of learning from other schools, such as The Bird and the Feather's seminar. I have learned that teachers and principals want to use new ways to teach their students. Also, I learned that other schools have programs to help students, like Project Rebound, Kay's Kitchen, and Japanese Drumming.

I am thankful that you gave me an opportunity to go to the conference. You gave me a chance to see my classmates in a new environment. I thank you for letting me be a part in the conference by letting us do the Pledge of Allegiance. Lastly I thank you for a great lunch and good tea and desserts.

Again, thank you for the chance to go to the conference and represent this year's Boosters. I had a great time, and I think my classmates did too.

Sincerely,



Remy Hall

November 6, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
Po Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,

My name is Yasmin Martinez, and I am a Booster student at Mount Vernon. I wanted to thank you for inviting my class of Boosters to the North Carolina Alternative Education Conference. It was very nice of you for thinking about us and inviting us.

I have learned how to appreciate what I have and what our principals and teachers do for us. After attending one conference about The Balfour, I learned how teachers help students build skills and give them great opportunities during school and after school. What I acknowledge is that our teachers and staff put a lot of effort just to help us achieve and accomplish our goals. I truly enjoyed it, and learned a lot.

I am thankful for giving my class an opportunity to assist at the conference. I am also thankful for the lunch and those delicious desserts. I really enjoyed the conference. It was a huge experience. We had a great time, and heard and met some important speakers.

Thanks again for a very informative conference and for the hospitality. I hope that next year you will consider giving Mt. Vernon Boosters students the opportunity to go and enjoy a spectacular conference again. It was such a great event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yasmin Martinez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Yasmin Martinez

November 9, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,

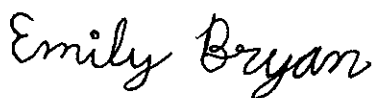
Hi! I'm Emily from the Booster group at Mount Vernon. I would like to thank you for inviting my class to the North Carolina Alternative Education Conference.

I learned that a lot more work goes into running an alternative school than I thought; and I learned to appreciate what teachers at alternative schools have to go through on a day-to-day basis. I have a new respect for all the effort that schools put into these kids who need their help. I'm glad that I had a chance to see that.

I'm thankful for this opportunity; it was a lot of fun going to the sessions. Thank you for lunch and dessert--it was really good. I was really nervous about going up in front of everyone and saying The Pledge, but it turned out to not be that bad.

Again, thank you so much for inviting me and my class to the conference. It was a lot of fun.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Bryan".

Emily Bryan

November 10, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
PO Box 2513
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513

Dear Dr. Johnson-Green,

My name is Arisby Ventura, I am one of the Booster students at Mount Vernon. I just wanted to thank you for giving the opportunity to me and my peers to attend the North Carolina Alternative Education Conference.

During the conference, I learned that many students drop out of high school because of pregnancy; so the Balfour Academy has a nursery for teen parents. Another strategy used is to keep the boys and girls apart so that they can concentrate more on their studies. The Balfour Academy also checks on their students after graduation to make sure they transition right back to their base school.

I am very thankful that you gave us the opportunity to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance at the conference. One of my favorite things was when we had lunch and dessert.

We had such a great time, and I very thankful that you let me and my classmates attend the conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arisby". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Arisby Ventura

November 10, 2015

Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green
Office of Alternative Education
Po Box 2513
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Dear Dr. Gwen Johnson-Green,

My name is Kevin Navarro, and I'm a Booster student from Mount Vernon School. I want to thank you for inviting me and my classmates to the North Carolina Alternative Education Conference. It was an amazing experience going to meet the other alternative schools around the state of North Carolina.

I learned a lot from the alternative schools that were there. I found it very interesting how almost every alternative school is different. I thought that every alternative school was the same, so I was amazed of how each is very unique in their own way.

I am thankful for the food that we were served. That was some of the best food that I have ever eaten; I feel blessed to have been a part of the amazing experience. So I want to thank you for the invite and hopefully you will invite the next group of Boosters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Kevin Navarro