



# San Diego Unified School District

LEADS at San Diego High Educational Complex  
1405 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101

Phone: (619) 525-7456  
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July 20, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in support of the PowerMentor program in San Diego. Our school has utilized its services after we experienced some challenges with a group of our at-risk population. We experienced continuous incidents that quickly were turning violent on our campus. These at risk students were jeopardizing the overall safety of our campus. Classroom learning was constantly being disrupted, leading to frustrated staff and students.

Because of our ongoing trust and strong relationship with PowerMentor, we immediately felt confident that they could help us. The PowerMentor Team moved quickly and effortlessly in meeting with us to conduct a pre-assessment of the situation. They quickly put together a comprehensive program for us. This program was strategically planned for our particular population. The team implemented it immediately. We were very impressed that they stayed with us and our students all the way through to the completion of our school year. As soon as they began to work with our students we saw immediate positive results.

The staff at PowerMentor has the unique ability to interact with a diverse population, and are very skilled in verbal de-escalation techniques. One of the many attributes of the PowerMentor program is their ability to connect with young people and their vast network within inner city communities and agencies. The team members they bring to the school are fantastic role models for our students to spend time with. Many of them were just like our student population at one time in their own lives; dropped out of school, participated in gang activity and are from the same challenged neighborhoods that our students reside.

The organizations ability to mobilize so quickly was very impressive. But the most impressive aspect of the program is how quickly and positively our students responded to them. They are amazing. Without them our campus would have continued to be one that was plagued with daily fights and conflicts that constantly disrupted the learning environment.

Should you have any questions regarding our experience with PowerMentor, please feel free to contact me. My personal cell phone number is (619)851-7699. I would be happy to respond in more detail about the necessary and courageous work The PowerMentor Team provides.

Sincerely,

Lisa Williams  
San Diego High School of Leads  
Dean of Students

July 20, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of the PowerMentor Mobile Outreach Team in San Diego. We have been working hand in hand with this team to reduce violence within some of our inner city parks. The professional and calculated manner in which this unique team operates has been an asset to our city.

PowerMentor is able to mobilize in a moment's notice with their team during times of crisis or prevention type programs such as their movie night at the park to prevent violence in many San Diego communities such as Mountain View, Logan Heights, City Heights, Emerald Hills, and Southcrest, to name a few. The flexibility that this team offers along with its vast community network has been instrumental in empowering communities to help themselves.

I have seen firsthand the positive impact PowerMentor has had on the community by building relationships and making themselves totally accessible to the communities in which they serve. The demands in some of these communities are great, yet PowerMentor steps in head on. The competence and remarkable success stories of many of the team members is also helpful because they grew up in the communities they are serving.

Should you have any questions regarding our experience with PowerMentor, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rahsaan Brown  
Raider Management CEO  
Project Coordinator (San Diego Gang Commission)  
619-309-5399