



WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM, INC.
EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

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Ms Patricia Gualin
President Board of Directors
Rye Arts Center
61 Milton Road
Rye, New York 10580

March 11, 2010

Dear Ms. Gualin,

I am writing on behalf of the Port Chester Head Start and Therapeutic Nursery School that has had the fortune of participating in your programs for many years. This year, programming has included two special classes of preschool students with disabilities.

This morning, I observed one of the special classes participating in a music/movement class. I have followed this group of youngsters since September. I was amazed at the skill of "Ms. Joy" as she interacted with these students. She exhibits patience, group management skills, animation, and a wonderful vibrant quality. Most of these students entered school with significant weaknesses in language (receptive/expressive), behavior, as well as being English language learners. Through participation in your programs, these students have transferred learned skills to a new setting, facilitating their transition to the public school setting. I had an opportunity to watch their engagement and use of language. They truly enjoy and look forward to attending the program offered in your center and would not have had an opportunity to participate in them due to home economic status. Your programs have inspired our students in what I hope will be a life long interest in the arts. Thank you for sharing your generosity, commitment, and educational expertise to our students and program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peggy MacDonald".

Peggy MacDonald, MEd, LMSW
Consultant
Special Education

Cc: M. Pilpel