

March 24, 2008

John Cahal  
President  
ABC Phonetic Reading School, Inc.

Dear John,

I would like to commend you for the SES program you are currently conducting in the Creighton School District. I applaud the accuracy of your invoices, your promptness in completing all the district's required forms, and the quality of your tutors.

Specifically, I have observed the work of Kelsey Anderson on Jan. 29, 2008 and Stephanie Beckert on Feb. 29, 2008. Kelsey worked with three students and Stephanie worked with two. Both tutors displayed evidence of prior planning before the tutoring sessions, bringing in a crate of materials and manipulatives to use in the day's learning. Both had students sign in on the daily attendance log in order to keep accurate records.

Through the use of the day's reading lesson, white boards, cards, pictures, songs, and a spirit of competition, all five students were actively involved in learning. By following the learning spiral of review, informal assessment, repetition, and the introduction of the day's learning focus, your tutors enabled their students to practice their reading skills. The tutors also made the learning pertinent and meaningful to the students by relating concepts to experiences the children already knew.

Both Kelsey and Stephanie showed great patience and respect for these young students. During my observations, I heard many comments such as "good job," "you are learning so fast," and "well done" as the tutors got the students to recognize their own achievements. Even a wrong answer was treated with respect with "that's good thinking, but can you find another word with a short a sound." These five students were obviously comfortable and happy to be working with your tutors.

Again, I thank you for all the training you have obviously given your tutors and for arranging this opportunity for Creighton children to improve their reading skills. I can only hope to see improvements in these children's high stakes testing scores in reading.

Deanne French  
Supervisor of Supplemental Services for the Creighton School District