

January 22, 2011

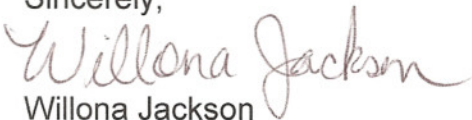
To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to submit this letter to you on behalf of the Dancing Classrooms program. Last year, I was introduced to the program by getting to experience it through the students at the school that I worked at. It was pure enjoyment to watch students transform into true ladies and gentleman. Well, if you can imagine, I pretty much did cartwheels when my own daughter entered 5th grade this year because I knew she would get to participate in Dancing Classrooms at her own school. I was definitely not disappointed. My daughter loved the program so much she begged to sign up for the continuation courses taught at Central School for all area children across the parish.

Dancing Classrooms is a unique program in that it encompasses a variety of valuable lessons for children ranging from social to academic in nature. Beyond that, it even provides special opportunities for parents as well. I am not a dancer, never have been. Yet, to watch me in my living room on the night that Dancing with the Stars airs on TV, you would think differently. I thoroughly enjoy ballroom dancing and I've always wanted to learn, but not in front of a crowd. This year, I have been fortunate enough to pick up a few steps from my daughter teaching me. Even my eight-year old son knows what "to the ladies, to the men" means and "shake your pockets" too. My husband and I take turns attending all of the practices and we know all of the names of the dances as do all of the other parents too. Dancing Classrooms has promoted family dialogue in our home. We talk about what happened at practice, which dance is our favorite, and even where the dances originated. One other thing that I found to be truly amazing is the number of dads that I see attending practices and showing up for performances. What a wonderful gift!

These are just a few of the reasons I wholeheartedly support Dancing Classrooms in Calcasieu Parish. I truly hope that this is a program that will continue to be provided for our children in the future. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Willona Jackson

Assistant Principal

College Oaks Elementary School & Proud Parent of an AA Nelson Elementary Cowgirl