

September 3, 2009

Ms. Nancy Vallee
1518—18th St.
Lake Charles LA 70601

Dear Ms. Vallee,

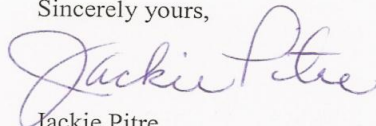
I hope that you have been well and had a great summer. I have had the time to think about how much of an impact the Dancing Classrooms program had on the students in my class last year. This was a wonderful program because it encouraged the children to work hard individually and collectively. Many began with little self-confidence and grew throughout the weeks of dancing into more confident and self-assured young people.

One student in particular was the classic underachiever. He skirted around doing homework and schoolwork with flimsy excuses. This guy ended the program being the best dancer and partner in the class. No one would have thought that a change would take place in everything he did once he gained his newfound confidence. Both home and schoolwork improved drastically, more for dancing than it did for basketball. He still had some minor troubles behaving properly, but fewer excuses. I was pleasantly surprised at how he changed in those ten weeks.

All of the students made improvements when interacting with each other. They all loved learning and dancing and they all loved Mr. Daniel. My only wish is that the program could have been implemented earlier in the school year so that the achievement factor could have helped them sooner. I am totally supportive of having the Dancing Classrooms as part of our class curriculum. I enjoyed watching the changes and progress of the students as they became more aware of themselves achieving the goals required of them. The culminating event was more than any of us expected and thrilled the entire class, student body, parents, and visitors. I was deeply moved too.

I look forward to working with the Whistle Stop Program in any capacity in the future. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Jackie Pitre
Sacred Heart/St. Katherine Drexel School