



775 Lexington Parkway North, St. Paul, MN 55104

March 14, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Michelle Cambrice, and I am the Director and Co-Founder of The Journey School (TJS) which is located in the Midway area of St. Paul. TJS is a diverse charter school that serves 147 students. Of those 147 students, 145 of them are students of color and 83.5% qualify for free and reduced lunch.

Our mission at TJS is to provide ALL students with the values, skills, and knowledge needed to embark on their life-long journey to success. In order to do this, we seek out community partnerships. Struggling readers in the upper elementary and middle school grades at our school have had the good fortune to partner with The Reading Center for the past two school years. The Reading Center does not charge our school or the parents, yet the students get the same, high quality Orton Gillingham reading interventions, twice a week, that more affluent families have access to privately.

This partnership has been very effective for our students. We are glad that the READ Act passed last year. But we see that older elementary and middle school aged students will not likely see the benefits of the READ Act during their schooling. They should not be left behind. That is why we are so grateful for this partnership with The Reading Center.

Students not reading at grade level by third grade are less likely to catch up – unless they receive Science of Reading based interventions. Older students who cannot read well are more likely to disengage from school and even drop out of high school. We want more and expect more for our students.

We welcome this partnership with The Reading Center. I hope that more schools have access to this SOR intervention through such a partnership with The Reading Center.

Sincerely,

Michelle Cambrice
Director

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