

City of Milwaukee
Steering and Rules Committee
City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Steering and Rules Committee:

Please accept this letter in support of Escuela Verde receiving their 5-year contract renewal. Escuela Verde is not only a high school, it is a community anchor dedicated to cultivating a more just, sustainable, and peaceful Milwaukee. Their unique model prepares students to become our state's next leaders by focusing on student-led project-based learning, environmental stewardship, restorative justice, and civic engagement.

In my experience with Escuela Verde, I have:

- Participated as a judge in their Science Strikes Back science fair, where I saw students from Escuela Verde as well as other schools showcase science experiments to a public-facing audience. It was amazing to see learners of all ages (kindergarten through college and there was even a retiree who presented at one point) sharing knowledge with a diverse array of community members.
- I've sat in as a community member on their restorative justice-based disciplinary meetings wherein students are participants in acknowledging harm their actions may have caused and in deciding how best to rectify poor choices, as well as explaining themselves. Parents and EV staff are also closely involved in these meetings.
- Facilitated a workshop for students about energy issues, starting at the basics of what is energy, and culminating in a field trip to a WE Energies power plant. Two of the students who participated in that workshop went on to focus on energy for their senior projects, and one got a job as a solar installer after graduation.

I enthusiastically support the continuation of Escuela Verde's mission. I look forward to speaking with you should you have additional questions about this recommendation.

Regards,

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