

09-24-19 YCBE Reg. mtg
WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PK.# 1.4

"Excellence for All"

Handout #1

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Educational Services Division

Barbara Herms
Director, Elementary Education
435 Sixth Street
Woodland, CA 95695
Office 530-406-3236

District Website: www.wjUSD.org

Tom Pritchard, Superintendent

September 19, 2019

Dear Sarah and Mick Martin,

I want to begin by thanking you for having your child in our SDC regional preschool classrooms at Maxwell or Prairie Elementary schools, which include peer models. It takes a special parent to see and understand the unique benefits of having a child participate in such a program.

Unfortunately, due to licensing issues, we are no longer able to offer peer model participation in this program. The last day that our peer model students will be able to attend is Friday, September 27, 2019.

I understand the concern that this may cause families, as the peer model program certainly benefits all involved. Educational Services has been working with families of the peer model students to try and find placement in other programs within our district such as State Preschool, Head Start, or Transitional Kindergarten.

The Educational Services team is also working daily to find other options for our SDC regional preschool students to have access and interactions with typically developing peers. This may look different at each of the Maxwell and Prairie sites. We are also working on a long-term plan for preschool inclusion opportunities.

This program has been an excellent model for inclusive practices, enhancing the educational environment for both the SDC students and the peer models. We are sorry to have to end the peer role model aspect of the program at this time, but are working on other options to provide your child with typical developing peer interactions.

To help provide clarity and transparency, we have included some questions and answers on the back of this letter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Herms
Director, Elementary Education