

Ed and Laura Gonzalez
9142 Julie Beth Street
Cypress, CA 90630
June 10, 2009

The Prentice School
18431 Lassen
Santa Ana, CA

Dear Prentice School,

This letter is addressed to everyone at the school, who are too many to name, but all are important! ☺

I want to let you all know how much we have enjoyed our first year at Prentice! As you may know, this was Alyssa's first year ever in school and it couldn't have been a better place for a 14 year old with dyslexia to go her first time out there.

From our first visit there to today, everyone has been so kind, compassionate, energetic, thoughtful, tireless and just plain wonderful! Even though we knew she would be fine, after homeschooling for 8 years it was a little hard for me to let go, but after meeting Mrs. Lerner and Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Farmer, we knew that she would be well cared for at Prentice. If we could have built the school of our dreams for Alyssa to go to, it would be Prentice! ☺

It was so exciting for us at home, too, seeing Alyssa blossom that first week at Prentice. She has always been a pretty confident girl, but as she entered the teen years I could see that she was starting to look around at her peers and seem to determine that she wasn't smart. It seemed to come to a head this past fall, while taking a class with a few other students, and we knew we needed to make a change.

While searching online for curriculum options for students with dyslexia on Google I happened to glance over to the right and see a link to a school. I had no idea there was a school like Prentice so relatively close to home! I could easily find schools in New York and Texas but searches in California didn't seem to turn up anything worthwhile.

Well, what an amazing site to behold as I toured the Prentice website!! I called right away and talked with Raven and Mrs. Lerner on the phone. We made an appointment to visit and meet with Mrs. Lerner. Now, here is how eager we were....there was an Open Houses before our meeting and we came to that!! ☺ You all probably thought we were weird, but we just wanted to know as much as we could!! We left the Open House so excited about our upcoming meeting!!

Our meeting with Mrs. Lerner came and we were very impressed. We also met Mrs. Clark and both women were so nice. We never felt like we were being sold anything, but rather that we were being offered the key to a door that would open up a new world to Alyssa.

Alyssa fully enjoyed her four day visitation and it just went from there. She started as a Prentice student in November 2008 and over the next week or two at home we could see her confidence level come back! She stood straighter and just gave off such a confident air! It was magical! I think homeschooling offered her a lot of things, one was being able to grow up outside the 'regular' school environment where she might possibly have gotten the impression something was 'wrong' with her. But then, when it was time to make changes, I love how Prentice was there to take her in and continue where we left off. I wish we had found Prentice earlier, but I am so, so glad that we at least found it before Alyssa was too old to attend!!

Academically, she has done so well!!! And besides grades, she is seeing herself in a new light! She can do schoolwork like 'regular' kids!! I think most homeschooled students wonder how they measure up with their schooled peers and maybe the ones with dyslexia wonder even more. At Prentice Alyssa is able to do all that within a wonderful and supportive environment.

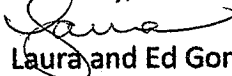
The holistic approach Prentice takes towards the students is what makes it such a wonderful place!! Everything you do helps them now and prepares them for the rest of their lives. It is just remarkable and something that we are so blessed to be a part of.

Alyssa only has one more year there, but we hope to be a part of Prentice for years to come to help ensure that it is there for other children.

Thank you just doesn't seem to be strong enough to convey our feelings for all of you! We say 'thank you' when someone holds the door, yet here you all are changing lives and all I have is 'thank you!' So please, let me say 'thank you' times a billion!! Thank you for being there every day...thank you for making possible a place for our different learners...thank you for caring...thank you for your sense of humor...thank your for patience....thank you for being there.

We are so glad to have one more year at Prentice!! Have a wonderful summer and we'll see you in August!

Sincerely,


Laura and Ed Gonzalez