

A. Wofford, #49 BOS 6/6/17



ANN S. WOFFORD

1900 Hidden Valley Lane

Camino, CA 95709

(530) 626-6858

ann@wavwines.com

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Board regarding 4 Directions Farm. I cannot stress enough my firm belief that El Dorado County must take a visible stance in supporting the "differently-abled" in our community and in our lives. As several of you know, I am the parent of an adult son on the autistic spectrum. My family is incredibly fortunate- my son is high-functioning and thanks to the amazing world that is Camino School, he is employed and he is valued for his talents. But traditional K-12 schooling was not the place for David, and to think that other students have an option where they can fit in fills me with joy for that opportunity for them, and tears for what David missed out on.

I have also served on the MORE Board of Directors and continue in that role as a Board Emeritus. Championing those who cannot speak for themselves, but who have the capabilities to be productive members of society when they are given a chance, is a passion everyone should be proud to embrace.

I recently attended an event introducing the plans behind 4 Directions Farm, and was thrilled to know that such a progressive, vital and necessary opportunity was opening for a population in our community who have too often been nothing more than a line-item to be cut from a budget.

Please, please join me in working to make 4 Directions Farm a reality now. People with challenges are scary only if you don't know them. Everyone deserves a chance to succeed, and 4 Directions Farm will provide that for the vulnerable and disenfranchised students who can be so much more.

Thank you for your time-

Ann Wofford



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Fwd: 4 Directions Farm Support Letter

1 message

The BOSTWO <bostwo@edcgov.us>
To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 12:41 PM

Elaine Gelber
Assistant to Supervisor Shiva Frentzen
Board of Supervisors, District II
County of El Dorado
530.621.5651

——— Forwarded message ———

From: **Jess Pitel** <jpitel@ghandsschool.com>
Date: Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 12:32 PM
Subject: 4 Directions Farm Support Letter
To: "bostwo@edcgov.us" <bostwo@edcgov.us>

Dear Supervisor Frentzen,

Attached you will find a support letter for the 4 Directions Farm Program in both word document and pdf. Thank you so much for your time and consideration in this matter.

Best Regards, Jessica

Jessica Pitel, MSc.

jpitel@4directionsfarm.org

Agricultural Education Programs Director

4 Directions Farm, a 501(c)(3) organization

2 attachments

4 Directions Farm Support Letter.docx
14K



4 Directions Farm Support Letter.pdf
191K

May 29,2017

330 Fair Lane

Placerville, Ca 95667

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Carrie Nave and I am proud to say that I was born in Placerville in 1960. My family has been in El Dorado County for many generations and you would be hard pressed to find someone in this county that I'm not related to by blood or marriage.

My grandfather was a chicken farmer in Coloma, raised sheep and grew pears in Smithflat and was a carpenter who built many buildings on Hwy 50 heading to Tahoe. My aunts worked for El Dorado County in the assessor office and at the county court house. My uncles owned their own business'; well drilling, electrician, and farming. I have cousins and siblings who are teachers, farmers, and business owners here in El Dorado County. They were Grange members, Soroptimist International members and volunteered at the historical society. My family has always understood the need to be involved, what had to be done to support and nurture family and community.

Looking to the future of El Dorado County there is a concern that our youth are moving to other places, leaving our county and taking their talents elsewhere. The 4 Directions Farm would be an avenue for vocational training of individuals with disabilities in areas that would be beneficial to our beautiful county. These young adults gain skills that would afford them the opportunity to work locally, at vineyards, farms and farmers markets to name a few, not to mention the positive impact to our local economy.

4 Directions Farm is an amazing opportunity for individuals with disabilities to learn a trade, to join our community and contribute to what makes El Dorado County the incredible place that it is.

Carrie Nave

Carrie Nave

Multiple Subject/Single Subject Physical and General Science, Art

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my concern regarding the opposition to the growth and development of 4 Directions Farm.

I have worked with children in a number of capacities throughout my life. I have also worked with the special needs community for the past decade. My experience ranges from early intervention and learning basic skills, to working with adults learning to assimilate into their community and building independent lives.

I am now a teacher working with students with moderate to severe disabilities ranging from Autism to intellectual disabilities though I choose not to focus on their labels but rather their needs and their strengths.

As many who have worked with children, or have their own children, know that we learn by doing. Those in the special needs community are not different. In fact, it is even more imperative that these individuals have the opportunity to have hands-on experiences.

Our students need a place where they can learn appropriate skills that give them a sense of purpose and meaning. This year my students have grown plants from seed, cared for them, watched them grow, and reaped the harvest of their hard work. These are students who may not be able to read or write their names, but they have lovingly put in the time and effort and have been so proud of what they can accomplish. They have learned that they too can do hard things and be successful.

Many of my students have lived their lives with adults assuming they are unable to do certain tasks due to their disabilities. This is simply not true. They merely need the opportunity and some guidance. This year we have handmade lip balm, grown many plants from seed, and crafted large pieces of art. This is what this program can provide for individuals with special needs. A sense of accomplishment, a sense of pride, and an opportunity to learn they are able to accomplish things they may have never dreamed possible. Isn't this something that should be afforded to every member of our community?

Thank you for your time,

Kasey Curtis M.S., Ed, Special Education

Special Education Teacher



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Fwd: 4 Directions Support Letter

1 message

The BOSTWO <bostwo@edcgov.us>
To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 12:32 PM

Elaine Gelber
Assistant to Supervisor Shiva Frentzen
Board of Supervisors, District II
County of El Dorado
530.621.5651

—— Forwarded message ——

From: **Kasey Curtis** <kcurtis@ghandsschool.com>
Date: Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 9:14 AM
Subject: 4 Directions Support Letter
To: "bostwo@edcgov.us" <bostwo@edcgov.us>

I have attached a letter I have written in my support of 4 Directions Farm for the meeting being held today, June 6, at 2 p.m. in the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors chambers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Kasey Curtis M.S., Ed, Special Education

Special Education Teacher

916-508-2705

 **4 directions letter.docx**
14K

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my concern regarding the opposition to the growth and development of 4 Directions Farm.

I have worked with children in a number of capacities throughout my life. I have also worked with the special needs community for the past decade. My experience ranges from early intervention and learning basic skills, to working with adults learning to assimilate into their community and building independent lives.

I am now a teacher working with students with moderate to severe disabilities ranging from Autism to intellectual disabilities though I choose not to focus on their labels but rather their needs and their strengths.

As many who have worked with children, or have their own children, know that we learn by doing. Those in the special needs community are not different. In fact, it is even more imperative that these individuals have the opportunity to have hands-on experiences.

Our students need a place where they can learn appropriate skills that give them a sense of purpose and meaning. This year my students have grown plants from seed, cared for them, watched them grow, and reaped the harvest of their hard work. These are students who may not be able to read or write their names, but they have lovingly put in the time and effort and have been so proud of what they can accomplish. They have learned that they too can do hard things and be successful.

Many of my students have lived their lives with adults assuming they are unable to do certain tasks due to their disabilities. This is simply not true. They merely need the opportunity and some guidance. This year we have handmade lip balm, grown many plants from seed, and crafted large pieces of art. This is what this program can provide for individuals with special needs. A sense of accomplishment, a sense of pride, and an opportunity to learn they are able to accomplish things they may have never dreamed possible. Isn't this something that should be afforded to every member of our community?

Thank you for your time,

Kasey Curtis M.S., Ed, Special Education

Special Education Teacher



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Fwd: 4 Directions Farm Support Letter

1 message

The BOSTWO <bostwo@edcgov.us>
To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 12:41 PM

Elaine Gelber
Assistant to Supervisor Shiva Frentzen
Board of Supervisors, District II
County of El Dorado
530.621.5651

—— Forwarded message ——

From: **Jess Pitel** <jpitel@ghandsschool.com>
Date: Tue, Jun 6, 2017 at 12:32 PM
Subject: 4 Directions Farm Support Letter
To: "bostwo@edcgov.us" <bostwo@edcgov.us>

Dear Supervisor Frentzen,

Attached you will find a support letter for the 4 Directions Farm Program in both word document and pdf. Thank you so much for your time and consideration in this matter.

Best Regards, Jessica

Jessica Pitel, MSc.

jpitel@4directionsfarm.org

Agricultural Education Programs Director

4 Directions Farm, a 501(c)(3) organization

2 attachments

4 Directions Farm Support Letter.docx
14K



4 Directions Farm Support Letter.pdf
191K

May 29,2017

330 Fair Lane

Placerville, Ca 95667

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Carrie Nave and I am proud to say that I was born in Placerville in 1960. My family has been in El Dorado County for many generations and you would be hard pressed to find someone in this county that I'm not related to by blood or marriage.

My grandfather was a chicken farmer in Coloma, raised sheep and grew pears in Smithflat and was a carpenter who built many buildings on Hwy 50 heading to Tahoe. My aunts worked for El Dorado County in the assessor office and at the county court house. My uncles owned their own business'; well drilling, electrician, and farming. I have cousins and siblings who are teachers, farmers, and business owners here in El Dorado County. They were Grange members, Soroptimist International members and volunteered at the historical society. My family has always understood the need to be involved, what had to be done to support and nurture family and community.

Looking to the future of El Dorado County there is a concern that our youth are moving to other places, leaving our county and taking their talents elsewhere. The 4 Directions Farm would be an avenue for vocational training of individuals with disabilities in areas that would be beneficial to our beautiful county. These young adults gain skills that would afford them the opportunity to work locally, at vineyards, farms and farmers markets to name a few, not to mention the positive impact to our local economy.

4 Directions Farm is an amazing opportunity for individuals with disabilities to learn a trade, to join our community and contribute to what makes El Dorado County the incredible place that it is.

Carrie Nave

Carrie Nave

Multiple Subject/Single Subject Physical and General Science, Art