



January 28, 2014

Dear Bill,

The Economic Partnership has undertaken a major education initiative to improve the academic performance of our local students while also better preparing them to enter the workforce. The Partnership, along with Citrus College and Mt. San Antonio College, is leading a consortium of 11 school districts and three Regional Occupation Programs from the eastern side of the San Gabriel Valley to obtain a Career Pathways grant. Career Pathways is a state program to align school curriculum with the skills that are needed by businesses. The goal is to help students improve their academic performance while also better preparing them for their future careers.

Here are the 11 school districts in the Consortium: Azusa, Baldwin Park, Charter Oak, Covina-Valley, Duarte, Glendora, Monrovia, Pomona, Rowland, Walnut Valley and West Covina.

The Partnership is applying for \$15 million in state funding to expand and improve the existing Career Pathways in the San Gabriel Valley. As part of this initiative, **the Partnership is looking for businesses willing to actively participate with our local school districts in these work-based learning programs.** This participation can be many things: providing tours of your business for students, speaking to students about different professions, participating in job and intern fairs, offering job shadowing days, offering training for teachers, or providing internships or part-time work.

If you would be willing to participate in any of these ways, please send a letter of support on behalf of the Partnership's grant application. [Click here for an easy-to-complete template letter.](#)

Send the signed letters to Brad Jensen, Director of Public Policy, at bjensen@valleyconnect.com. **The deadline to receive these letters is close of business on Thursday, February 5th.**

Thank you for your partnership in strengthening the San Gabriel Valley as a good place to do business.

Sincerely,

Cynthia J. Kurtz
President & CEO