



SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PREPARATORY

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To Whom It May Concern,

Standards, validity, performance bands, P-value, point-biserial, Cronbach's alpha, critical thinking: the terms of educational improvement can be dizzying. Wendy Chalk and Steve Ramirez of Lifelong Learning and Associates provided clarity and strategies as Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory worked to strengthen its college preparatory curriculum. The breadth of their instructional methodologies to facilitate achievement for all of our students, while the depth of their assessment practices have allowed us to better calibrate academic rigor across the curriculum. Perhaps most importantly, Steve and Wendy's knowledgeable and empathetic advice has facilitated a richer classroom experience for both our students and teachers.

Wendy and Steve's ability to partner with administrators, department chairs, faculty teams, and individual teachers is proving pivotal as SHCP continues to align curriculum vertically and horizontally, and as we more explicitly articulate critical thinking skills in our instruction and assessment. The two are generous coaches, approachable and thoughtful, and, like the best teachers, intentionally develop the abilities and the resourcefulness of those with whom they work. Wendy's efforts with Algebra instructors have allowed them to better assess the reliability of their formative and summative assessments. Steve has guided United States History instructors in effectively adapting national and state standards to meet the needs of our diverse student body, helping, as he likes to say, to create historians rather merely to teach history. Our students and our faculty have been well served by the engaging modeling and effective curriculum strategies shared by Wendy Chalk and Steve Ramirez.

Sincerely,

Joan O'Neill

Assistant Principal For Academics