

Hello, my name is Sofia Lucero, I am 17 years old, a Junior at Enterprise High School, and I am applying for the Student Board member position for the term of 2024 to 2025.

But first I want to say a little about myself and what I do at Enterprise. I first moved here to America from Chile in the summer of 2022 and joined Enterprise that same year as a Sophomore. I was put in simple but fun classes and there I created a small community and circle of friends. As the year went on I started to thrive in all of my classes, I noticed that I was capable of doing more and started to expect more of myself for the following year. At the end of my Sophomore year, I decided I was going to enroll in more rigorous and difficult classes, sports, and clubs. When the time came to select all my classes for my Junior year I signed up for 3 AP courses and decided that the first sport I was going to do was swim, followed by soccer in the winter, and then track in the spring.

The first opportunity I had to join a club was when I heard the invitation for all incoming Juniors and Seniors to apply to be a part of E-Crew—a club that welcomes all the incoming Freshmen to the school and supports them throughout their first year of high school. This caught my attention because I was once in their place too. I had just arrived from another country, I had to step out of my comfort zone and speak English every day now, and I had to get used to this completely foreign and scary concept of High School.

When I realized this, I immediately picked up an application to make every freshman that would be later assigned to me, feel welcome and help them get used to this concept of high school and all its implications.

At the end of my Sophomore year, I also decided that one of my classes would be solely dedicated to peer mentoring. I have one period a day where I help and tutor at the Global

Language Center. I mostly help Newcomers to the country with translating, helping them with their homework, and helping them with any problems they might have at school. My reason for doing this was the same as the one for joining E-Crew; I wanted to help those who are not used to this system and in this case, there is a language barrier that stands in front of them the same way it stood before me. I noticed that I could use everything I learned in my first year of school to help others in this situation that I was first in. There is nothing more beautiful to me than being part of this program that helps so many of our English Learners.

Now I am part of the Science Bowl Club, I was Student of the Month for September, I am currently enrolled in my first year of Intro to Medical Careers and plan to continue next year, I was asked by our principal at Enterprise, Mr. Johnson, to be a part of the School Site Council, and I am a part of TRIO Upward Bound program—a federally funded program by the US Department of Education that provides services and support to low-income first-generation youth to do well in high school, graduate, and enroll in and graduate from postsecondary education. I would not have been able to come this far without the help of all my teachers who always supported me, helped me, and always showed me that I could pursue anything I wanted. With this in mind, I am applying for this position because I have a passion for helping and serving students, and this opportunity to represent them too, is wonderful to me. I see this opportunity as a great responsibility but also a great opportunity to support and represent all the students of our district.



Enterprise High School

3411 Churn Creek Road, Redding, CA 96002

(530) 222-6601, Fax 222-5138

Ryan Johnson, Principal
Joey Brown, Assistant Principal
Jill Hardy, Assistant Principal

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Ms. Sofia Lucero as a student representative on the Shasta Union High School District's Board of Trustees. Sofia has consistently demonstrated the skills, thoughtfulness, and overall interest in her education to make an excellent addition to the board.

I have known Sofia since the beginning of this year, where she is a superb student in my AP Language and Composition class. Her fervor for learning, her desire for honest feedback, and her diligence in all of the work she produces make her an excellent candidate for this position. When reading and discussing a piece of prose, Sofia consistently offers thoughtful, articulate responses – both orally and written. Furthermore, Ms. Lucero truly desires actionable feedback on her written responses with the goal of improvement in her skills.

In addition to her academic pursuits, Sofia is a member of the EHS soccer team, the track team, and the swim team. Furthermore, she is a core member of our global language center. Her first 15 years were spent in Chile, so she brings invaluable diverse life experience from another country and education system.

It is for the aforementioned reasons that I believe Sofia Lucero would make an excellent addition to the Board of Trustees for the Shasta Union High School District. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at (530) 222-6601 ext. 12046.

Sincerely,

Matthew T. Garrett

Matthew Garrett, MA, NBCT
Department of English
Adjunct Professor, Simpson University



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Jim Cloney
SUHSD Superintendent
2200 Eureka Way Suite B
Redding, CA 96001

May 15, 2024

Dear Superintendent Cloney and SUHSD School Board,

I write today in enthusiastic support for Sofia Lucero's application for the position of Student Board Member for the 24-25 school year. I have known Sofia for two years. Last year she assisted students and faculty in translating for meetings, phone calls, and lessons, and this year she serves in our ELD One class as a Peer Mentor for students just beginning to learn English. Sofia is, without question, the most brilliant student I have known in over twenty years of teaching. Sofia Lucero is kind, compassionate, driven, curious, and wise.

Sofia is originally from Chile, where she taught herself English at home in her spare time. She is a world traveler with wisdom beyond her years, having lived in two very distinct cultures and countries. Sofia has a natural drive toward helping others, and she eagerly seeks opportunities to make our world a better place. She has compassionately advocated for students who do not yet understand English, translating for them and their families for medical appointments, social services, and in educational settings. In every way, Sofia is a model advocate and a supportive and nurturing source of support for students and families.

Sofia is also a top tier student with an astute academic mind. She takes several Advanced Placement courses and earns top grades. She finds complicated problems in the classroom to be fascinating challenges that she strives to meet. Sofia is dedicated to learning deeply and solving problems of practice in every academic setting; multifaceted issues engage Sofia and she does not rest until she has solved them.

Sofia Lucero is well-loved by students and faculty on our campus, and she will serve our school board well in the position of Student Board Member. Because of her richly diverse background, she is uniquely positioned to represent a wider range of students than almost anyone else. From English Learners to Advanced Placement students and everyone in between, Sofia Lucero is one student who can truly advocate for all. I recommend her as highly as possible.

Warmly,

Dr. Robbin Jack
Enterprise High School
English and English Language Development

May 14, 2024

Shasta Union High School Board of Trustees

I am writing this letter of recommendation for Sofia Lucero for the position of Student Member on the Board. I am certain that you very much will enjoy having Sofia as a part of the Board of Trustees.

My name is Sue Huizinga and I am the TRIO Director at Shasta College. I know Sofia as she is a member of our TRIO Upward Bound program at Enterprise High School. TRIO Upward Bound is a federally funded program from the US Department of Education that provides services and support to low-income first generation youth to do well in high school, graduate, and enroll in and graduate from postsecondary education.

Sofia is a lovely, motivated, kind, and intelligent young woman who takes advantage of all the opportunities that become available to her. She assists EL students in the Peer Mentoring program, this work with students translates to her relationships with her friends and others around her. I have seen her work to include all students into activities and create new friendships.

She is also interested in how the world around her operates. She is a member of the EHS Site Council and enjoys learning about how the school works including the budget. This has peaked her interest in being the Student Member on the SUHSD Board of Trustees.

Sofia is also an active member of TRIO Upward Bound. She participates in academic year programming and comes to the Upward Bound weekly to make sure she gets the information she needs. She also is not afraid to reach out for help. During the summer of 2023, Sofia attended our TRIO Upward Bound six-week summer residential program at Shasta College. Students attending UB summer take SC concurrent courses, enrichment courses designed by the UB teaching staff, participated in workshops, field trips, and a three-day college tour. Sofia was an active participant, listened well, and worked hard.

As an immigrant to the United States from Chile, Sofia recognizes that the opportunities provided to her will ensure her success. Each summer we partner together with the Chico State TRIO Upward Bound programs for a Multicultural Day. Our students put together poster presentations to share. Sofia chose her home country of Chile and along with her poster brought items from home to share. She was so excited and proud to share with all about Chile.

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I wish I knew a way to convey just how special Sofia is. I have worked with 1000's of students from difficult situations. Sofia is one of those students who I will also remember and will follow through her time in college and into her career. Her successes will be inspiring to watch.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I look forward to watching Sofia continue to grow and excel as a member of the SUHSD Board of Trustees. She will make your proud!

Sincerely,



Sue Huizinga
TRIO Director, Shasta College