

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Venice High School
13000 VENICE BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066
TELEPHONE: (310)306-7981 FAX: (310)306-3249

Friday October 30, 2020

Dear Venice High School Committee on Excellence in Education,

The current learning environment has provided unique opportunities for teachers and students alike to learn and grow. I have seen how isolation can both improve students' focus and limit distractions, while at the same time inhibit their social and emotional well being. Many students attend online class from work with their parents, from the bus as their parents look for jobs, or from the car while their sister is at a dentist appointment (all places my students have Zoomed from). As a teacher, I empathize with students who do not have ideal learning environments when learning from home. I get distracted by poor sound on Zoom calls, lighting where I can't see my students, and struggle to sit still in an uncomfortable position for most of the day.

This is why I am asking for a \$500 grant to be used on a desk chair. The current chair that I'm using is causing persistent pain during Zoom lessons. Even with frequent breaks for myself and the students, I have trouble sitting for more than 15 minutes without pain. Sitting in a comfortable chair would keep me from fidgeting so frequently, a habit my students have pointed out to me, and would increase the amount of time I am able to spend working at my desk without interruption. This chair would provide significant relief for a body that is used to being active and standing or interacting with students during the work week. The hope is that this chair would allow me to Zoom in such a way as to limit distractions for my students, and prolong the duration of my planning time.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued support of the students and teachers of Venice High School

Sincerely,

Julia Bare, M.E.

Venice High School – Biology and AP Biology Teacher
Faculty Advisor VHS Garden Club
Faculty Advisor for the Leadership Class of 2022