



# COMMUNITY ACADEMY of PHILADELPHIA

A PENNSYLVANIA CHARTER SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

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September 8, 2008

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Svitek,

Thank you for your generosity. I have learned a lot from my experiences at Outward Bound. I learned to be more in touch and patient with nature. For example, when a thunderstorm came through and lasted an hour, I had to sit on my pack for an hour soaking wet. To pass the time, a couple of friends and I began singing.

I am more open with my opinions on things. During Outward Bound we had something called "Dinner Circle" where we expressed our ideas about what happened throughout the day. At first, I was quiet, but as the days went on I became more open and comfortable with the people around me.

Finally, I am much more confident in myself now that I completed the Outward Bound course. I cannot think of one particular event that shows this. For me, just completing the course and all of its components was a huge accomplishment. I never thought I could do it all. Once again, thank you for sending me to Outward Bound.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Nieves".

Melanie Nieves, 10<sup>th</sup> grade