This six-week summer school program has been designed for motivated, high level English Language Learner (ELL) students with leadership potential. The program combines an intensive literacy focus with outdoor, place-based, experiential curriculum.

**THE ISSUE**

- Approximately 25% of our student population in the Truckee-Tahoe School District is designated as ELL, 90% of these students are achieving below grade level and will not pass the upcoming High School Exit Exam, and 60% of these students drop out of school before they graduate.

- Motivated, high level ELL students currently have no summer school opportunities to raise their literacy skill levels to test out of ELL designation and enter mainstream classes.

- Research has proven that intensive literacy instruction combined with meaningful outdoor leadership curriculum can raise student grade levels up to two grade levels in one six-week session.

Nancy Peñaflor is an exceptional ELL student who, after 6 years in the United States, should be ready to enter mainstream classes at her high school next year. But, without increased literacy skills and confidence in her academic abilities, there is a high probability that she will fail. Her reading and writing skills are still several grade levels lower than the skills of her native English speaking peers. Without supplemental literacy instruction, Nancy is not set up for success in our system.

Nancy is a motivated young woman. Unlike some of her peers, many of whom will be pregnant before the age of 18, Nancy knows she needs to prioritize education in order to graduate from high school and start a professional career.

**Nancy needs this program in order to succeed in life and to fulfill her dreams.**

This summer we hope to reach out to ten students like Nancy Peñaflor.