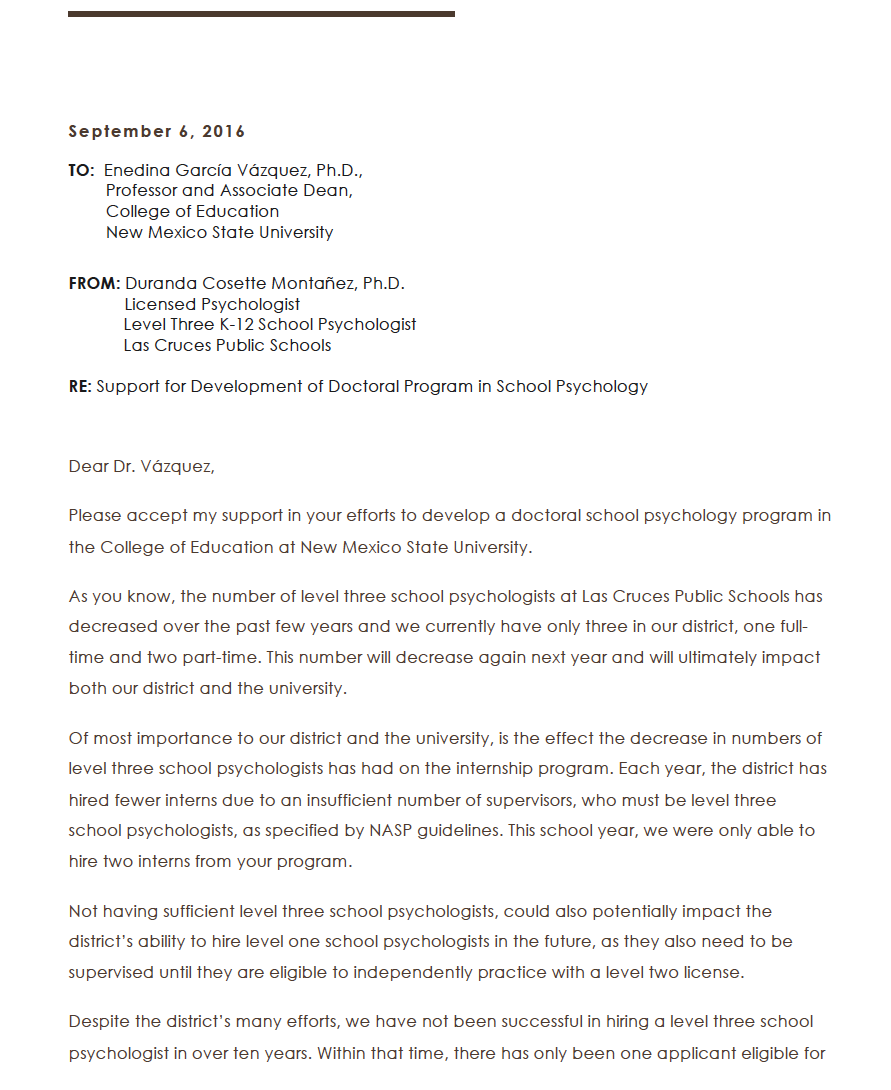
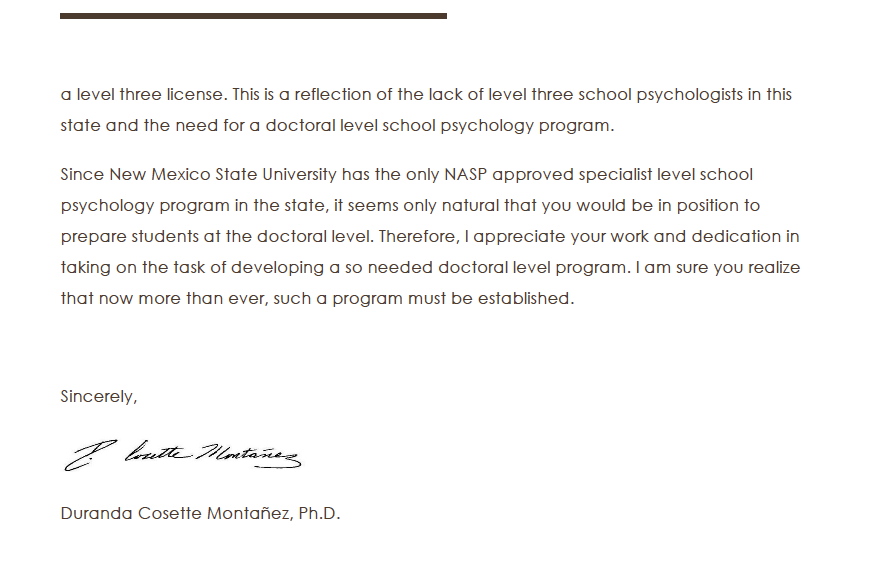
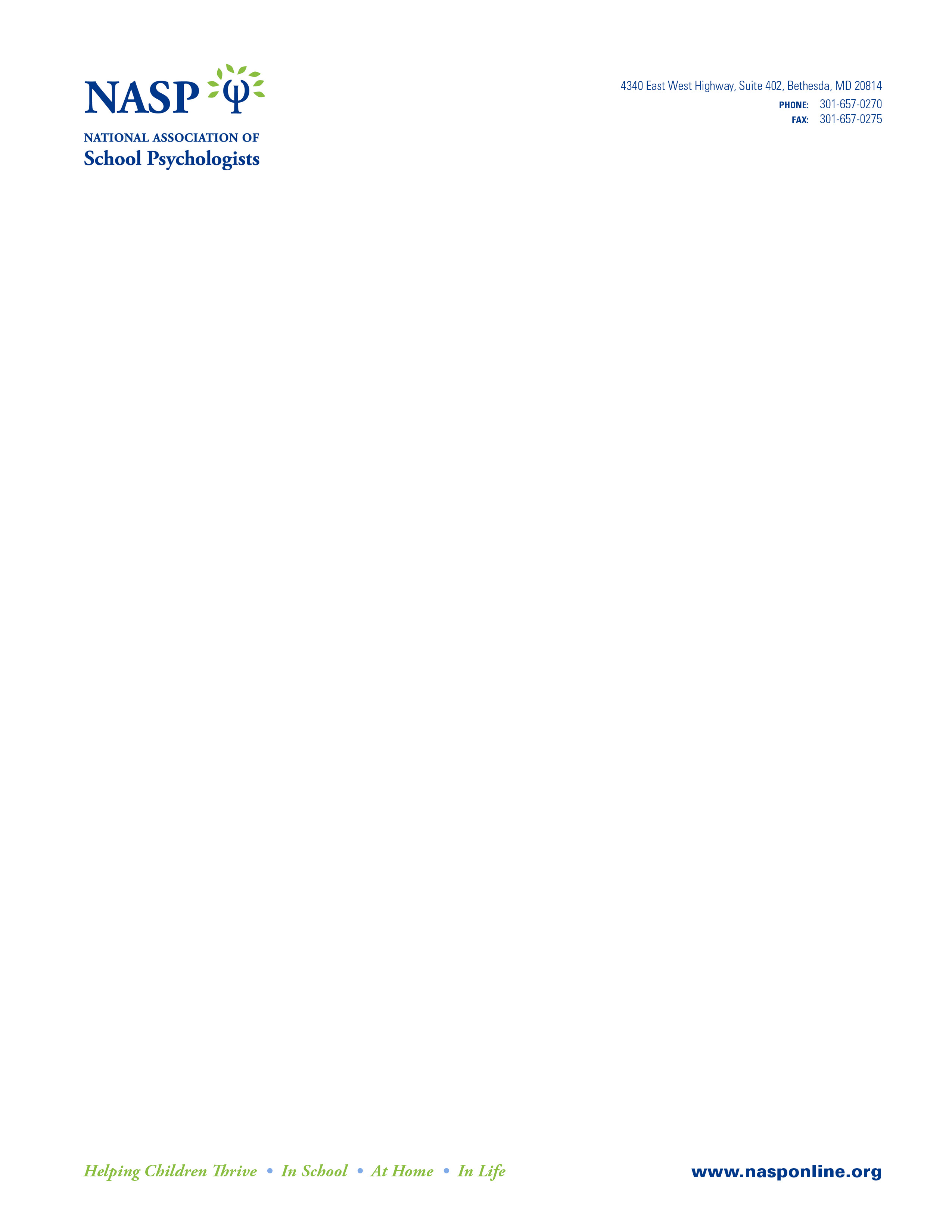
APPENDIX C

LETTERS OF SUPPORT







September 27, 2016

Enedina García Vázquez, PhDProfessor and Associate Dean

New Mexico State University  
College of Education

Box 30001, MSC 3AC

Las Cruces, NM 88003

Dear Dr. García Vázquez:

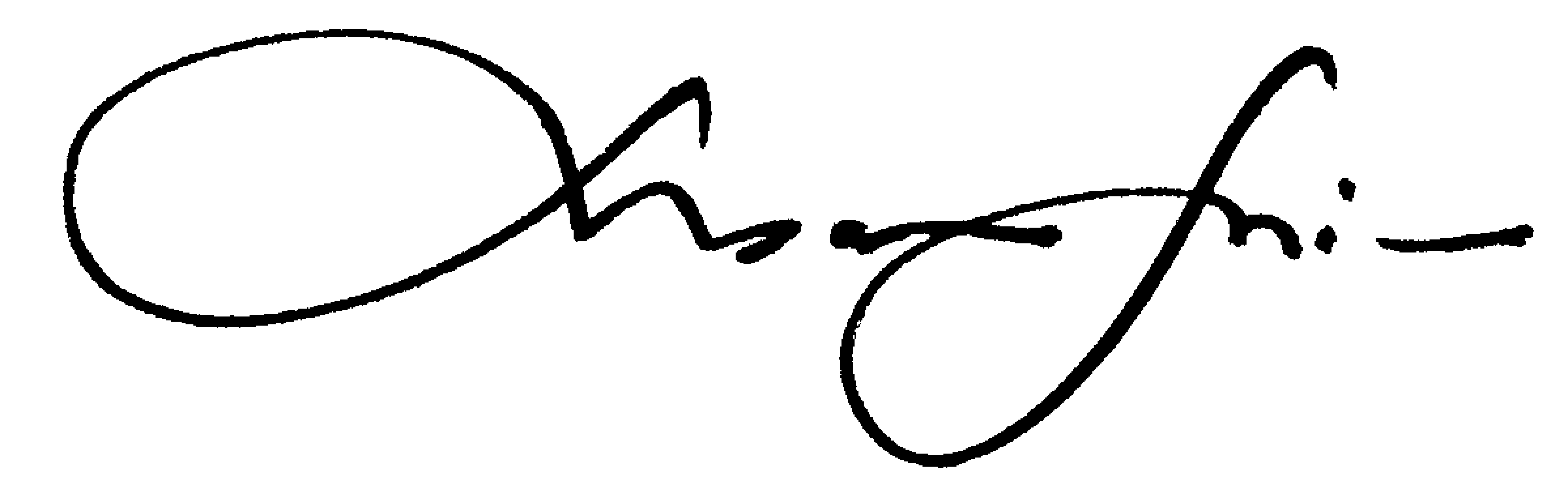
The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) is pleased to share this letter of support for a proposed graduate education program to train doctoral level school psychologists at New Mexico State University.

With the increasing diversity of student populations, there is an urgent need for school psychology professionals to identify and address the needs of English language learner students. As you know, these are students who have unique support needs that are often unmet in traditional school and support systems. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to provide all students with appropriate academic support so they may achieve optimal learning.

However, there is a critical shortage of school psychologists and school psychology graduate educators. Federal and state mandates for mental health supports for our nation’s students, research pointing to the benefits of social-emotional skills development for educational progress and safer schools, as well as the shortage of bilingual professionals equipped to work with students and families, points to the need for and benefit of a doctoral school psychology program at NMSU. As the only specialist level program in the entire state, increasing the capacity of your program is important. A doctoral program will generate future school psychologists—and future graduate educators who will hopefully remain in New Mexico and perhaps increase the number of graduate programs in the other state universities.

It is with this in mind that NASP finds this proposed new level of graduate education to be essential and offers you our support with guidance and/or technical assistance. Best wishes and thank you for working to address the shortage of culturally responsive school psychologists.

Sincerely,



Susan Gorin, CAE

Executive Director

*The National Association of School Psychologists represents school psychology and supports school psychologists to enhance the learning and mental health of all children and youth.*

