



February 15, 2022

Brad Pawlowski
Chief Business Officer
Paso Robles Joint Unified School District
800 Niblick Road
Paso Robles, CA 93446

Dear Mr. Pawlowski,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with additional information about our credit union's history and community involvement.

Our credit union was founded in 1934 as Fresno Teachers Credit Union by nine teachers and school administrators who shared a passion for providing low-cost financial services to the educational community. In 1981, our name was changed to Educational Employees Credit Union (EECU) to better describe the common bond of our membership, which today includes teachers, school employees, students, and members of school organizations.

EECU is a not-for-profit cooperative, owned by its more than 338,000 members. Credit unions were founded on the principle of "people helping people" and we are proud to be part of the credit union movement to promote financial health and enrich our communities. We don't have stockholders, and so our profits are returned back to our members in the form of lower loan rates, higher savings rates, and low-to-no fees. Our profits are also invested back into the communities we serve.

Our members in Paso Robles already enjoy the convenience of banking with us online, and plans are underway to open a full-service branch in Paso Robles in 2023. We have already purchased a building at 2341 Theatre Drive that will be remodeled for our new branch.

EECU enjoys supporting many community programs and events in Paso Robles, as a sponsor or through donations, including the Chamber of Commerce membership benefit guide, Chairman Circle, and the Annual Gala; the Home and Wellness Expo; and the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District retirement luncheon, Employee of the Year recognition program and celebration, T-shirts for the community ambassadors for peer counselor students, and the newly-created years of service recognition program.

We have sponsored Excellence in Education events for many years in five different counties that honor outstanding teachers, administrators, and school employees; last year we celebrated 30 years of sponsoring the Fresno County Educator of the Year awards ceremony. Each year we sponsor distributions of backpacks and school supplies to families in need, and last year we joined together with

a local TV station, Disney and First Book to provide 5,000 books to disadvantaged elementary school students; another book donation is scheduled to take place this year.

We are committed to educating today's youth about the fundamentals of saving, budgeting, borrowing, and investing. We have four full-time employees who teach financial literacy – in person and virtually – to students of all ages, and instruction is available in English and Spanish. Through our award-winning Wise Up program, students learn about the realities of managing money and expenses through real-life scenarios such as selecting a career, paying bills, and buying a house. We also offer various financial literacy classes and workshops on topics such as learning the basics of money and banking, creating a budget, and understanding credit reports and scores. In 2021, more than 5,000 people attended our financial literacy presentations.

As part of our commitment to educational community, in 2016 we partnered with Clovis Unified School District and opened a full-service branch on one of their high school campuses. The branch is staffed by EECU employees and by students who are participating in the district's Career & Technical Education pathway in banking. The students work volunteer shifts as tellers, and under the guidance and supervision of the branch managers they learn valuable workplace skills. Students working in the branch also earn class credit toward graduation.

A higher education offers many benefits, but students face rising tuition costs. To help students achieve their educational goals and dreams, our Board of Directors established the Educational Grant Program, which awards \$100,000 in grants each year to help students pay for tuition, room and board, and other education-related expenses. To date we have awarded more than \$1.5 million in grants.

We genuinely care about our members and our community, and we have supported them through good and bad times during our nearly 88 years in business. When the coronavirus pandemic emerged and disrupted our economy in early 2020, we responded by offering support to our members who were facing financial difficulty. From mid-March 2020 through December 31, 2020, we deferred more than 7,000 consumer loan payments and over 150 real estate loan payments – totaling more than \$130 million – to help those affected by the pandemic. We increased credit card limits and offered loans at zero percent interest, and we also waived fees totaling over \$2 million. People helping people isn't just a motto – it's what we do.

EECU has a long history of stability, strength and integrity. We are committed to giving back to our communities and providing our members with superior service and affordable products and services that enrich their financial lives.

Thank you for your time spent reading this letter. Please feel free to contact me at 559-437-7845 or markp@myeeecu.org if you would like more information about EECU.

Sincerely,



Mark V. Perez
Senior Vice President of Lending and Marketing