



Byron Center Public Schools

"Opening the Doors of Tomorrow for Students Today"

March 30, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing on behalf of Tanya Meuhlbauer and the Kidz Have Rights Program. This is the second year that Tanya has organized and presented this program for our 3rd-4th grade students representing three elementary schools. We believe this program is vital to the overall well-being of our students. We have had lots of positive comments from staff and students. Below are some of the comments we have received from our staff in regards to this presentation.

"I think this program is EXCELLENT! I don't know how many parents actually talk about this with their kids, but I think it is important and the class is presented well and professional due to the "touchy" subject. I would like to see our school keep this if we can!"

Jenny Curtis- 3rd grade teacher; Countryside Elementary

"I really think the presentation was useful and practical. I know last year, it made a difference with one student in particular. The speaker I had, Ms. M, was VERY good with the kids and knew how to handle them in regards to management, etc. I'd recommend that you keep doing it!"

Mandy Caldemeyer- 4th Grade Teacher; Countryside Elementary

I have really found the value in "Kids Have Rights" the last two years that it has been run. I was able to sit in on a third grade lesson and it was very well done. The site teacher did a wonderful job and was appropriate in all her comments and responses. It was extremely well communicated and understandable for the kids. Last year we had a student who approached us about some concerns she had within her own family. I am convinced that we would have never found this out if it was not for this program. I DO support this program. I feel it is part of our moral responsibility to kids. We may be able to help a child just by talking afterwards.

Kevin Macina- Principal, Marshall Elementary

I was informed that 2 siblings-sisters (3rd and 4th grades) had confided to their mom that they had been sexually abused by their step-grandfather. They told this to mom after your safe touch lesson. He is now in jail and they are both receiving outside counseling service.

Carla Nienhuis- Countryside Elementary Counselor

I think the program is beneficial. Not only to make students aware, but even if we help 1 student avoid this situation or get out of a current situation, we'll have saved someone from a lifetime of struggles.

Mark Ferguson- 4th Grade teacher; Brown Elementary

Sincerely,

Carla Nienhuis and Kristi Takens: Elementary Guidance Counselors

Byron Center Public Schools

8542 Byron Center Ave. SE, Byron Center, Michigan 49315
phone 616.878.6100 fax 616.878.6120 www.bcpsk12.net