

Aurora City Schools

www.aurora-schools.org

October 2, 2013

Board of Education
102 E. Garfield Rd.
Aurora, OH 44202
330-562-6106
Fax: 330-562-4892

To Whom it May Concern,

Miller Elementary
646 S. Chillicothe Rd.
Aurora, OH 44202
330-562-6199
Fax: 330-995-5459

Today we were treated to a program by Dan Smith which featured a creative video, humor, good music, and a great message. Dan used the story of Spider Man and his "Spidey Senses" to relate the importance of listening to your conscience. He also pointed out that using these senses can be applied to avoid danger as well as make a positive impact. Dan ran the program as if telling a story which kept our students engaged and focused on his message. This program was a unique way of getting across an age old point and, if you listen to Dan, you will actually leave the program wanting to give someone a hug. I would recommend Dan Smith to deliver this same important message to any group of young adults.

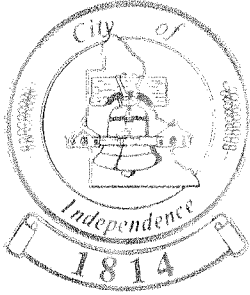
Craddock Elementary
105 Hurd Rd.
Aurora OH 44202
330-562-3175
Fax: 330-954-2087

Leighton Elementary
121 Aurora-Hudson Rd.
Aurora OH 44202
330-562-2209
Fax: 330-562-2265

Michael J. Roberto
Principal
Aurora High School

Harmon Middle School
130 Aurora-Hudson Rd.
Aurora OH 44202
330-562-3375
Fax: 330-562-4796

Aurora High School
109 W. Pioneer Trail
Aurora OH 44202
330-562-3501
Fax: 330-562-3588



City of Independence, Ohio

"THE HEART OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY"

6800 BRECKSVILLE ROAD

INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

(216) 524-4131

June 18, 2008

I am writing this letter to express our satisfaction with the wonderful program that Dan Smith brought to our community. Dan did 2 school assemblies and 1 come-back rally (assemblies were for middle and high school students). He brought his band (Momentum Band) and started off with a "mini concert" as students were entering. The music was appropriate for the assembly and engaged the students right away.

Dan then showed a video illustrating his own personal mission to "get a hug" which took place right in downtown Cleveland. He went into his main message which used the Spiderman "Spidey Sense" concept to illustrate the importance of listening to your conscience when making decisions. The analogy helps kids learn that their conscience (or Spidey Sense) constantly alerts them to things they should and shouldn't do, and if ignored, it can get them into trouble, just like Peter Parker!

Dan understood and respected that there could be no religious content in his daytime messages which took place in the public school auditoriums.

The evening come-back rally was faith-based and sponsored by area churches, so Dan was able to bring the faith component into his message at this event. Evening activities included the Momentum Band, Dan's message, pizza and pop.

Many times assembly speakers come and go and their presentations are unremarkable. This was not the case with Dan Smith. The students still comment on "our last assembly speaker" and "how great he was." Anyone interested in retaining Dan should do so without hesitation.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

Angie Zeleznik
Clerk of Court



Terrance Olszewski
Superintendent of Schools

Allen D. Sluka
Treasurer/CFO/Business Services

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Joseph M. July
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Gary Wolske
Vice President

Robert A. Dobies, Sr.

June A. Geraci

Christine A. Kitson

March 14, 2015

Dear Sir or Madam,

Last year, Elmwood Elementary School had the privilege of hosting "Dan Smith and the Momentum Band" for an all-school assembly celebrating the birthday of Dr. Seuss. The event was an absolute success! The students were engaged by great music, enjoyable activities, and a positive message that reinforced the love of reading. The students shared positive feedback about the event. They were expecting a "folksy guy with a guitar" and instead, were entertained with a rock and rap extravaganza! We were so pleased with the event; we immediately made plans for this school year.

"Dan Smith and the Momentum Band" is a very talented group with great vocals and instrumentals. They exude an element of "cool" which grabs and keeps the attention of older students. They can play in a variety of styles, from rap to modern funk. If you want to deliver a positive message to your students in a manner which engages consumers of modern music, this is the group for you! I never expected Dr. Seuss to sound so cool. Their assembly energized and motivated my students to pick up books and read!

If you have questions regarding "Dan Smith and the Momentum Band", please don't hesitate to call. You won't be disappointed with this group for your students.

Most Sincerely,

Gwen Abraham

Principal, Elmwood Elementary School



Board of Education Offices
5640 Briarcliff Drive
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125

Telephone 216.475.8100
Facsimile 216.475.1824

www.garfieldheightscityschools.com

Administration

Sarah Zatik, Ed.D., Superintendent
Christina Dinklocker, Ed.D., Deputy Supt.
Bruce Basalla, Chief Financial Officer
Mark Daniels, Business Manager
Jeff Cook, Principal
Heidi Zimmerman, Asst. Principal



Hillside Middle School

Serving Parma, Parma Heights and Seven Hills

Board of Education

Rosemary C. Gulick, President
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Cynthia Lee Bratz
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Kathleen Ann Petro

September 28, 2007

I am writing this letter to express my thanks for the wonderful program that was brought to us at Hillside Middle School on September 27, 2007. The program was timely, motivating and at a level that middle school students could easily relate to and understand.

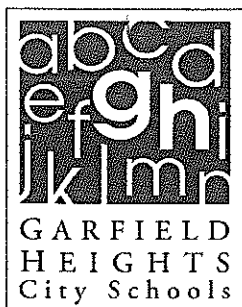
The program had the attention of the students as they were entering the gymnasium. Dan Smith and his band were playing current music that students could relate to, grabbing their attention and leaving them ready for more. Mr. Smith easily focused the group of more than 500 students with his animated delivery and his ability to talk to students at their level. His self-directed video was humorous as well as telling of Mr. Smith's personality and mission. His depiction of how difficult it has become to get a simple hug from another individual and how powerful a simple hug can be was clearly meaningful to our student body. It was not just the hug that the students were left with, but the idea that kind gestures of any type can make all of the difference in the life of others. In addition, he touched on the idea of "paying it forward". The idea of doing the right thing just because it is the right thing to do is an aspect of the character education program of Hillside Middle School and Mr. Smith's message added reinforcement to our program.

The main body of the program revolved around Mr. Smith using an analogy of Spiderman and his "spider sense", a sort of sixth sense that protects Spiderman from injury. This was an outstanding analogy that the students could easily identify with, resulting in excellent crowd attention and interaction. Mr. Smith has a clear understanding of his crowd and the ability to engage middle school age children. His overall message was that everyone has a sixth sense like Spiderman that will protect each of them if they let it. He identified this sixth sense as the students' conscience. We were able to use this concept immediately with some of our kids who made wrong choices later that day. It is a simple, yet powerful concept that allows kids to see they do have a choice when faced with difficult decisions.

Mr. Smith's program was a wonderful addition to our character education program. His message was clear to our students and it helped to reinforce the ideas that we work to instill in our students. I would highly recommend this program to anyone interested in giving students a relevant, age appropriate and engaging program.

Sincerely,

Jeff Cook
Principal
Hillside Middle School
(440) 885-8449



March 6, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

Terrance Olszewski
Superintendent of Schools

Allen D. Sluka
Treasurer/CFO/Business Services

Board of Education

Joseph M. Juby
President

Gary Wolske
Vice President

Robert A. Dobies, Sr.

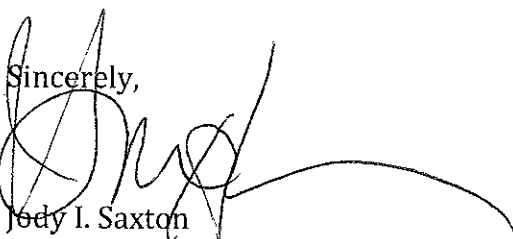
June A. Geraci

Christine A. Kitson

This letter is in reference to Mr. Dan Smith and his Momentum Band. We have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Smith and his family for two years now. Their children attend our school so we have had regular opportunities to interact with the Smith family. It was during one of those casual conversations that Mr. Smith suggested a creative way to support our efforts at promoting literacy. Mr. Smith volunteered his band to come and do a school wide presentation all around literacy and reading.

The program was awesome! We had our entire student body of over 550 kids in our gym totally engaged with the music and entertainment. The program included a very unique video that promoted reading and had the kids laughing and singing. The video was created by Mr. Smith and the Momentum Band and was another example of the talent they possess.

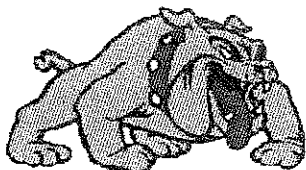
Mr. Smith and the Momentum Band gave our students a very special and memorable experience. He had our kids singing and learning at the same time. I would highly recommend Mr. Smith and the Momentum Band for any assembly or program for your school.

Sincerely,

Jody I. Saxton

Principal

Maple Leaf Elementary School

jisaxton@ghbulldogs.org



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5640 Briarcliff Drive
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125

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www.garfieldheightscityschools.com



Garfield Heights City Schools

March 7, 2010

To Whom I May Concern:

Linda N. Reid
Superintendent of Schools

Allen D. Sluka
Treasurer

Board of Education

Robert A. Dobies, Sr.
President

Christine A. Kitson
Vice President

June A. Geraci

Joseph M. Juby

Gary Wolske

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Mr. Dan Smith and his Momentum Band. We invited Mr. Smith and the Momentum Band to our school to present a program that was linked to our celebration of Black History Month and the importance of school. Mr. Smith went above and beyond our expectations.

The first portion of the presentation was a very engaging song that piqued the interest of everyone. Mr. Smith *hooked* everyone and they waited with anticipation on what would happen next. Then, he presented the story of Br'er Rabbit. This was outstanding! Dan told the story of Br'er Rabbit with enthusiasm, body movements and sound effects. Mr. Smith is an amazing "*story-teller*" and this was reinforced by hearing student conversations about their favorite part of Br'er Rabbit throughout the rest of the week.

To close the program Dan and his band presented the students with a catchy rap about learning to read. This was a great reinforcement of the reading expectations for our students.

Mr. Smith and The Momentum Band presented our school with a fun assembly that taught us about African Folk Tales and the importance of school. I can recommend Mr. Dan Smith and The Momentum Band without reservation for an assembly for your school.

Sincerely,

Sandra L. Powers
Principal
William Foster Elementary School
slpowers@garfield-heights.k12.oh.us



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Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125

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