



The Alternative High School

A Walworth County Charter School

Servicing Badger, Big Foot, Delavan-Darien, Elkhorn-Area, and Williams Bay High Schools with Gateway Technical College

October 14, 2002

Mr. Mike Domitrz
Domitrz and Associates
3951 S. 50th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53220

Dear Mike:

It was terrific to have you visit our school on September 23, 2002. Being an alternative high school program serving juniors and seniors, who are categorized "at risk", from five different high schools in Walworth County, we are a challenging group. These are students to whom many have preached, and who have endured many of the situations you were describing. What most impressed the faculty and the students was your ease and sincerity. You were able to speak to and with the students without speaking down to them. You presented concepts and viewpoints that challenged the way they thought. You enlightened them through facts, not opinions. You modeled empathy toward others concerning a very delicate subject matter to a sensitized audience who wanted to be perceived as tough.

I wonder if you can recall their reception to your information. To say they morphed from negative to positive is an understatement. They were initially "closed up", unreceptive to any stranger in the room, no less one with a message to deliver. By the end of the presentation, they were engaging in easy dialogue with you, asking pertinent and powerful questions, copying down information, sharing experiences, and asking for your expertise. What more could any educator ask for in a presentation?

Your program has become a valuable component in our goal of empowering and informing our students of their rights and responsibilities, not only in the legal arena, but also as human beings. For this, I am most grateful and heartily recommend you to any youth group from middle school through college.

Sincerely,

Debbie Bartholomay,
Alternative High School English Instructor

Enclosures