

May 2011

This is a letter of appreciation to Mr. Jim Merrills and also our community sponsor, Big Boy of Hastings-Barry County.

"Mr. Jim" has been visiting DKMS and sharing positive messages for more than 10 years. Substance abuse awareness and the importance of goal setting have been previous topics. His skills as a magician and motivational speaker make his presentations entertaining while still being current and thought-provoking for our students. His newest presentation really hit the mark with our students.

"Mr. Jim" joined the ranks at DKMS on April 26th. While here he presented topics that are very relevant in schools and with our students. His topics of the Abuse of Power, Cyberbullying and Bullying were presented through a Power Point presentation and a few magic tricks included for good measure! The pace of the presentation was excellent for our middle school students and the topic of bullying, which is often seen as an "elementary" problem was clearly defined as something that will continue to impact our students through adolescents and beyond.

I personally sat through several of the presentations and found myself jotting notes of his impactful slides and information that I will be able to use when working with students in my office or our problem solving room. I can't thank "Mr. Jim" enough for his enthusiasm and dedication to educating youth on the relevant and meaningful topics that can change lives.

Thank you also to our community sponsor, Big Boy of Hastings-Barry County. It is your support that makes us able to offer this to our students.

Sincerely,

Mary Guthrie
Assistant Principal - DKMS

