

HAMBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

30 Linwood Avenue
Hamburg, New Jersey 07419
Ph. 973.827.7570 · Fax 973.827.3624
www.HamburgSchool.com

Mr. Steven Engravalle
Chief School Administrator

Mr. William J. Sabo
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. Roger A. Jinks, Jr.
Vice Principal

September 29, 2009

Mr. George C. Albano, Principal
Lincoln Elementary School
170 E Lincoln Ave,
Mt. Vernon, NY 10552-3396

Dear Mr. Albano:

It has taken me a great deal of time to reflect on the amazing experience you and your staff provided for my team when we visited your remarkable school on March 23, 2009 so I may clearly articulate my feelings. First off, let me thank you for the experience; I know it has changed me for the better.

Certainly, as a leader of men, women, and children, you recognize that you must strive to identify, promote, and support a shared vision of excellence, a common set of values, and a clear set of performance expectations for all. It was apparent to me that this was only accomplished through resolve by you, the leader, as you have boldly faced the proverbial music at all times, even when you did not particularly care for the music that was playing at the time. You inspire me.

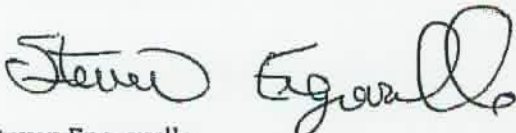
Your school climate clearly demonstrates that when accountability is collective, every staff member can become a leader. At your school, leadership is assigned based on who is the most qualified to oversee the particular effort, and as such all teachers and staff are celebrated and make a contribution to the children's education, and ultimately, the children benefit greatly. Bravo.

It was apparent to me that you and your incredible staff understand that being a professional educator is a privileged position that demands humility as much as respect. All of you recognize the power inherent in your roles and are self-reflective about your actions with children. You, Mr. Albano, are clearly role model of the type of learning and character that you strive to promote among students. As such, at Lincoln School, learning is a reciprocally educative endeavor that is informative and uplifting for teachers and students alike.

Finally, we both know that education is about opening hearts and minds and changing lives for all those involved in the process. Without a doubt, these are tools of empowerment and the rewards of teaching and learning, and at your school, they are alive and well. To be concise, Lincoln School is the embodiment of what is right and good about education.

Again, I thank you for giving of your valuable time to motivate, inspire, and inform my team and me. Our experience at Lincoln School will never be forgotten, and the lessons learned will be carried with us throughout our careers. In return, I stand ready and willing to assist you in any way possible,

Respectfully,



Steven Engravalle
Chief School Administrator