

Portage Area High School

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02/15/08

Remembering Adam
%Mrs. Debbie Fowler
P O Box 665
Hastings, PA 16646

Dear Mrs. Fowler:

It is a pleasure to write this letter in support, of what I consider one of the most outstanding programs in our school, the Remembering Adam Club.

Portage Area has been involved with Remembering Adam for many years and it has had nothing but a positive effect on our students, school and community. Over the past five years our referrals to the Student Assistant Program (a program to assist students who may have drug, alcohol or mental health issues) has gone down drastically. The overall climate of the school has been more positive and upbeat as a result of this club.

One of the requirements, and perhaps the best component of the club, is the random drug screening. We screen approximately four students a week. These screenings have created a positive peer pressure and basically a way out when our students are put in situations where alcohol and drugs are available. The club members realize that they may be selected to be screened that week in school and knowing that, we feel gives them the opportunity and the reason to say no.

The student's involvement in the club has increased from the first year of approximately 30% of the student body to the past year of 80% of the student body.

In my thirty six years in education, I have seen no organization have a better influence on our school than this club.

Sincerely,



Douglas Conlon
Guidance Counselor

Ralph J. Cecere, Jr.
PRINCIPAL

Deborah L. Meckey
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Douglas Conlon
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

Lisa Dividock
SCHOOL NURSE

Gary Gouse
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR