

*I wanted to include this letter along with the surveys to express my sincere thanks to you ..for an outstanding two weeks. The feedback from students, staff and parents has been highly complimentary.*

*I would like to share one story with you. One of our senior kindergarten children has not taken the bus since the first week of September. His mother has been dropping him off and picking him up each day since the second week of September. None of us could get to the bottom of his reticence to take the bus. The day after your team visited his classroom, Tyler informed his mother the following morning that he was taking the bus. We were all baffled by this turn of events until his mother called us ...and told us that Tyler had been bullied the first week of school by another student and was afraid to ride the bus. For months, this little guy had kept this secret inside refusing to tell even his parents. After your team left Tyler suddenly felt that he could tell someone safely and that by doing that he freed himself from months of fear. That, for us, was a little miracle. Of nothing else occurred during your visit, we felt that you had more than fulfilled your mandate.*

Principal, **Greendale Public School**, Niagara Falls (2000)

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*I am writing this letter to let you know how valuable the CAP Presentations ...were to both our staff and students.*

*The presenters had the students' undivided attention throughout all of the presentations...The style was striking and very realistic. The message was very effectively communicated.*

*It was also important that the message was communicated by someone other than the regular teachers, not only for the comfort level of the teachers but the impact of students hearing it from a different knowledgeable adult. Many of the students referred to the experience in the classroom in the weeks to follow.*

Principal, **Empire Public School**, Welland (2007)

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*During my six years as an elementary school principal I have had the Child Assault Prevention Program (C.A.P.P.) presented in two different K to 8 schools. Each time it was presented, Donna Christie and staff did a thoughtful overview for parents to ensure they understood the program its content and its purpose. They were always receptive to questions and concerns and provided thorough responses.*

*While doing the actual workshops with students, again presenters were professional, caring and responsive to student needs. Both parents and students are appreciative of the message delivered and the sensitive manner with which students are given valuable information to keep themselves safe.*

*I appreciate the overwhelming demand by schools to have the program delivered in their schools...and that there is usually a two year waiting period. With this in mind, once the workshops have been completed, I always re-book the school to have C.A.P.P. done again in two years time. The students need to hear the message again. They need to know that adults care and that there are ways for them to protect themselves.*

*Thank you...for making C.A.P.P. possible.*

Principal, **Valley Way School**, Niagara Falls (2007)

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*Prior to presenting to students, Donna took the time to attend a School council meeting and did a presentation to the parents. I know that everyone truly valued this interaction and went away... having learned much from the experience and having had a much better understanding of the importance of the program.*

*Frequently when groups of presenters come into our schools, they do not always know how to maintain interest and manage student behaviour. Donna and her staff impressed my staff with their ability to do both these things well. Our students now have the skills and information they can use in potentially abusive or dangerous situations.*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank the (team) for helping to educate our students in important life skills and for their contribution to our students' learning experiences this year.*

Principal, **Mathews Public School**, Welland (2005)

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*I will begin this letter by thanking you for your efforts to present the CAP program ...to the students of Connaught School. You had the interest and active participation of all age groups because of the relevance of the material presented.*

*I would be honoured if you would present this letter as a verification of the merit and worth of the CAP program and I do hope that you will continue to have us as part of your group of schools to present to...*

Principal, **Connaught Public School**, St. Catharines (2002)

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*I am writing to thank you and your team for your exemplary efforts on behalf of the students, staff and families of the St. John Bosco community. Your preparation, CAP workshops and insight into this timely topic, has not only raised the awareness of our*

*students, it has given them the tools to understand the need to speak out and voice concerns.*

*As educators and presenters our highest hope is that our children are prepared to face some of the challenges they will confront, to be able to manage difficult times and to know that no matter the circumstances, the truth should be told. I believe your presentations have empowered the children to identify bullying, employ strategies that will offer solutions and know they are not alone in this challenge.*

*Several comments included the appropriateness of the discussion, the value you brought to their knowledge of bullies, strangers and abuse situations and the kindness and caring manner in which you worked with the children.*

**Principal, St. John Bosco School, Port Colborne (2005)**

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*One program, which has made an incredible impression up on all staff and equipped our students with lifetime strategies in dealing with assault, is the Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP) recently presenter to our students. The presenters were highly skilled and professional in their approach. Their empathy, rapport and approachable manner with our students allowed for open discussion and individual follow-up after the sessions. The actual delivery of the program was sensitive to the age groups they were dealing with as well as to the community needs. These professionals have an understanding and awareness of the issues facing young people, and their expertise in the area of assault prevention and all that it encompasses is commendable.*

*The various professionals with within a school setting are experts in many areas. However, one in which we do not have a background or training is the prevention of child assault. These presentations were not only an outreach to our students, but a wonderful learning opportunity for our staff who were present during the sessions. Staff awareness and understanding of the issues, and their individual follow-up with situations has made for a much safe environment without or own school.*

*In summary, this program, unlike any other in which we have participated, has and will undoubtedly improve the quality of life for many of our students. These sentiments have been echoed by many of my principal colleagues across the region. The waiting list for school bookings is only an indication of the success of the CAP program.*

*It was, indeed, a highly positive learning experience for our entire school community.*

**Principal, St. Alfred School, St. Catharines (2003)**