



Sheepshead Bay High School

Reesa Levy, Principal

Phone: 718.332.2003

Fax: 718.648.9349

<http://sheepsheadbayhs.org>

3000 Avenue X
Brooklyn, NY 11235

May 16, 2008

Dear PSAL:

The "Academics in Motion Program" has been at Sheepshead Bay High School for the past two and a half years. The program has proven to be extremely beneficial to our students. The individualized attention provided by the Youth Development Coach plays an important role in helping our basketball players remain academically focused and socially centered. As a result of this excellent program, we have raised the academic performance of our athletes and it is rare that they are declared ineligible for PSAL sports.

At our school, our YDC conducts a study hall before and after practice to ensure that our athletes understand that academics are the first priority. SAT Prep is provided to juniors to assist them in achieving success on their standardized tests and with the College application process. Assistance is also provided to seniors in preparing college applications and financial aid forms.

We have found the YDC to be more than a coach, in reality a counselor, parent, and friend. We highly recommend this AIM program to all schools that wish to motivate, assist and support student athletes. Having this positive program available for students reduces the impact of negative peer pressure and increases the self esteem of our athletes. The program has provided the additional benefit of increased family involvement.

Sincerely,

Reesa Levy
Principal



CANARSIE HIGH SCHOOL

Department of Education City of New York
1600 Rockaway Parkway, Brooklyn, New York 11236
Phone: 718-290-8600 • Fax: 718-290-8681 • E-mail: 500K@schools.nyc.gov



Tyona Washington - Principal

Messinger, Jon, AP Organization
Alton, Stanley, AP Social Studies
Balasiano, Steven J., AP Mathematics
Dizengoff, Sandy, AP Special Education
Kennedy, Cassandra, AP Physical Education & Technology
Markis, Rosalie, AP YABC

Mujahid, Jubae, AP Pupil Personnel Services
Veneziano, Anthony, AP FL/ESL/ Art & Music
Walsh, Terence, AP English
Wozniak, Eric, AP Security
Zecca, Vincent, AP Science & Business

May 20, 2008

Academics In Motion
ATTENTION: Terry Quinn, Founder/Director
331 West 57th Street, #538
New York, NY 10019

Dear Mr. Quinn:

As the school year is coming to a close, I would like to personally thank you for the excellent way the A.I.M. program was run here at Canarsie High School. As a first year Principal at Canarsie High School, the A.I.M. program under the PSAL Project Rebound was certainly worthwhile and productive for our students.

Our student athletes have improved academically and socially. I have also seen a significant improvement in their self-esteem and character. The students appreciated the A.I.M. program and the sincere dedication of your staff who were supportive towards their needs.

Our assigned Coach, Ted Gustus, Jr. has done an excellent job of motivating our student athletes to become high achievers as well as model citizens. We are most appreciative to have Coach Gustus as a member of our Canarsie family and coach for the A.I.M. program.

I look forward to having the A.I.M. Project Rebound program return to our school in the future. I will be happy to introduce the program to other schools in the community.

Sincerely,

Tyona Washington
Principal

"A Tradition of Pride... A Commitment to Excellence"

THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PORT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL
85 ST. JOSEPH'S AVENUE
STATEN ISLAND, NY 10302

Timothy M. Gannon
Principal



Telephone: (718) 420-2100
Fax: (718) 981-6203

May 5, 2008

Mr. Terry Quinn, President
Academics in Motion
331 West 57th Street #538
NY, NY 10019

Dear Mr. Quinn,

It gives me great pleasure to write a letter in support of the work performed by staff associated with Project Rebound and Academics in Motion. The work that Mr. Victor Nicholson has done here at Port Richmond HS as the Project Rebound counselor has been remarkable. Although the position is a "part time" position, Mr. Nicholson spends the entire school day at the school working with our student-athletes. He has established strong relationships with our players and he has served as a role model for so many of our students. He has also become a volunteer member of our basketball coaching staff as he works with our ninth grade players throughout the basketball season.

The Project Rebound program is an outstanding academic support program. Having an academic advisor for our basketball players has positively impacted our eligibility rate for our players and more importantly has supported the work of our teachers. Our teachers respect and value the work of Mr. Nicholson and they are especially appreciative of his daily conferences with students regarding their academic progress. I fully support this program and recognize it as one of the finest programs offered in New York City high schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy M. Gannon".

Timothy M. Gannon
Principal

letters\ProjectRebound.smd

To whom it may concern,

My name is Ray Palma and I am a first year junior varsity basketball coach at my alma mater, Curtis High School. As a coach who takes a lot of pride in the academic status of his team, I faced an uphill battle. I told all of the players early on that academics would be the first priority in their lives. I was very pleased to learn that I would have the help of an academic coach to help me guide our players. Mrs. Sweeney worked with our players on a daily basis and provided our team with a true role model. Her tireless efforts let our student athletes know that in order to be an athlete, you needed to have your academics in place first.

I was previously the junior varsity basketball coach at Mckee/Staten Island Technical High school. Two schools who combined to make one team. I was oftentimes unable to get many teachers to even inform me of a student's progress until it was too late. Many refused to even sign daily progress reports. I always felt that if given a little extra help that our players could have excelled academically. However with me not in the building everyday and a lack of cooperation from the teachers many student athletes failed classes in my 4 years there and several players failed off the team.

It is my previous experiences that make me appreciate Mrs. Sweeney and Project Rebound so much more. This program gives our student athletes a place for a player to turn if they are confused, a person to talk to if they need advice, or simply provides them with another role model who is there to care for them on a daily basis. I am proud to say that my team went through an entire season and zero players failed off. The only classes that were failed were some math classes in which the players tried their best but were

unable to grasp the material. I know that at our team awards dinner, Mrs. Sweeney received a standing ovation from our players. Some of these players had given her a hard time throughout the season but in the end they were very appreciative of all of her efforts. Project Rebound lends a valuable hand to all coaches and teachers. I am extremely happy that the program is in Curtis High School and our school will always be better for the efforts of Project Rebound. On behalf of all of the players, coaches, teachers, and students of Curtis High school, thank you very much, your program has impacted the lives of countless young men and women and will continue to do so for years to come

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ray Palma', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ray Palma

JV Basketball Coach

CURTIS HIGH SCHOOL

105 Hamilton Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10301

Aurelia L. Curtis, Principal

School No. (718) 273-7380

Fax No (718) 273-9657

To Whom it May Concern,

The Curtis High School boy's basketball program is very grateful to have had the *Project Rebound* program implemented at our school. The program has provided us with the necessary tools to help monitor team academics, offer guidance services when needed, and to help strengthen and keep our "student-athletes" on the right track for life. Not only has this program helped in our player's maintain their eligibility, but it has also helped our "student-athletes" take great strides in preparing for the SAT's, working on college applications, and developing plans for their own future success.

Our academic coach, Jeannine Sweeney, has been very helpful in giving our players the extra "help and hand". She assisted not only in monitoring their academic work, but also in helping provide life skills, lessons, and mentoring.

As the head boy's varsity basketball coach, I am pleased and grateful to have Project Rebound incorporated into our basketball program.

For myself, and the student-athletes listed below, we remain hopeful that this program will continue in helping our athletes combine their academic work and overall personal development, in order to create an overall, positive sports experience.

Stade Cross

Sincerely,

Joseph J. Piro

Richard Potter

(coach)

Eric Conna

Eric Conna

Murray

Hakon Walkerston Bernick Epstein

Kevin Stewart

Stephen Grant

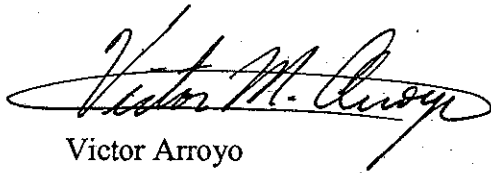
Varsity
Players

March 15, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to endorse the Project Rebound program. This pilot program has been a wonderful asset and success for our student athletes. We feel it should be expanded to include other sports and/or teams. The Project Rebound Mentor, Riley Nickols, provides student-athletes with additional attention, which helps monitor their attendance and academic progress. In addition, the program also exposed our student-athletes to community service, college campus visits, as well as other experiences they would not have had the opportunity to experience had it not been for Project Rebound. We hope that the success of this program will encourage other schools to adopt Project Rebound to help this valuable program benefit additional student-athletes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Victor M. Arroyo". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Victor Arroyo
Athletic Director
Christopher Columbus High School



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

99 TERRACE VIEW AVENUE, BRONX, NY 10463... TEL (718) 562-5500
FAX (718) 562-5132

**JAMES CUNNINGHAM, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

April 6, 2006

To whom it may concern,

I would highly recommend the implementation of the Project rebound program in your school. During the 2005-2006 school year we began the program with our Varsity, and J.V., Girls and Boys Basketball programs, and found it to be successful in focusing our student athletes on the study skills necessary to be successful at the college level.

Regards,

**Jim Cunningham
Assistant Principal
Health and Physical Education,
Athletic Director,
John F. Kennedy H.S.**

Terry Quinn

From: Alex Crosland [musicteacha@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2006 12:30 AM
To: estods33@yahoo.com
Cc: TYNIQUE WILLIAMS
Subject: project rebound letter

To Whom It May Concern,

Prior to being named the Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach at Jamaica H.S., I was amazed in finding numerous students who were excellent ball players but ineligible to participate. The scenario that was most troublesome, was losing team members right before the playoffs began because of failing grades. That was the first issue I wanted to address when I took over. I was able to make a significant change in the 'usual happenings', but it was a tedious task. When I heard about "Play It Smart" I asked my A.D. if there was a program for basketball. From the negative response I initially began trying to put my own study hall/tutoring program in place. Then the memo came about "Project Rebound". This was a program I wanted, felt we really needed and was very persistent about having.

September came, the program was approved and in came Mr. Eric Stoddard. I expressed to him how passionate I was about the program succeeding which meant the student athletes would be succeeding on & off the court. As a result of his diligence, there has been improvements of up to 15 points in specific classes and up to 10 points in their G.P.A. Eric has worked individually with some students on specific assignments / tasks and has scheduled subject tutoring for those in need. Boys Varsity Basketball maintained 100% eligibility for the 2005-2006 season which included 3 at-risk students (1 was ineligible for entire 2004-2005 and another who became ineligible after the 2nd marking period).

Project Rebound Highlights:

- attended Project Rebound Jumpstart at Apollo Theater
- co-sponsored the Fall Dance
- assisted with the Jamaica H.S. City Championship 50th Anniversary game
- 100% attendance to College Night
- group visits to St. Johns University
- individual visits to Suffolk Comm. & Boro of Manhattan Comm. Colleges
- college application submissions and acceptances

I am pleased with the first year success and am aware of areas that need improvement. We worked well together and assured of having better success in years to come.

Alex Crosland
Boys Varsity Coach

4/8/2006



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

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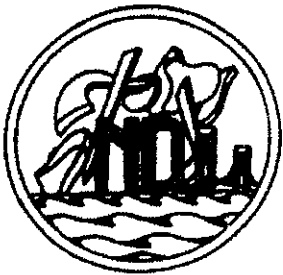
April 6, 2006

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for sending us a Mentor to work with our Girls' Basketball Teams. She has been doing a great job working with the girls. The girls love her and enjoy having her as their Mentor. She is a lifesaver and it would be extremely beneficial to other schools to have Mentors working with their sports teams. I personally feel that this program has been doing a lot of good for the students and the program should expand to other schools to help them like it has helped us.

Regards,

O'neil Glenn
Head Girls Basketball Coach
John F. Kennedy H.S.



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

NEW DORP HIGH SCHOOL

465 NEW DORP LANE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10306
TELEPHONE: (718) 667-8686
FAX: (718) 987-4889
Web Site: <http://www.newdorphsnyc.org>

Deirdre A. DeAngelis
PRINCIPAL

To whom this may concern,

As the head coach of the girls varsity basketball team at New Dorp High School we are ecstatic to have had Project Rebound implemented at our school. The program has given us the necessary tools to monitor the player's academia throughout the year. The players take great pride in being the best athletes they can be, yet now also have a place they know will be available to give them proper academic guidance. What I like is that we can concentrate solely on the athletes where other guidance in the school has to concentrate on the full student body. Targeting student athletes, while showing a proper work ethic has added to our success. We are on top of the players and know what they are doing at all points throughout the school year. Not only has this helped eligibility but we are taking great strides to place our players in the colleges of their choice due to the academic monitoring. Coach Louis Profera has been a huge help to our program giving us that extra hand we needed when monitoring academics while providing life skills mentoring. I am happy to have Project Rebound on our team and hope that this will always be an option to better our student athletes.

Regards,

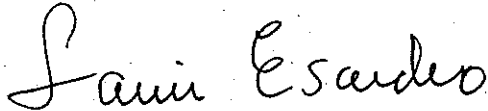
Coach Rucerto

March 16, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to endorse Project Rebound and to mention a few strengths of the program that I have observed over the past year. First, this year Columbus High School increased the required grade point average needed to be eligible to play basketball from a 65% to a 75%. This was a dramatic increase and some of my players were worried they would not be eligible to play during the season. However, having an Academic Coach available to the student-athletes throughout the day has been extremely beneficial for my players and has enabled them to get individualized tutoring and academic advisement. Second, Riley Nickols has helped students register for the PSAT and SAT tests, arrange a community service project at Pelham Bay Park, and has increased awareness about college preparation. I think Project Rebound should be available to additional schools including all sports – not just basketball. I have seen first-hand how beneficial Project Rebound has been and would recommend other schools do adopt this valuable program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Javier Escudero".

Javier Escudero
J.V. Boys Basketball Coach
Christopher Columbus High School



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NEW DORP HIGH SCHOOL

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Web Site: <http://www.newdorphsnyc.org>

Deirdre A. DeAngelis
PRINCIPAL

To whom this may concern,

Project Rebound is a great place to get my studies in on time. It is a place of concentration and hard work. Project Rebound helps me as a basketball player as well as a student. It helps me to do homework, projects, and to understand class work in order to pass my classes. Project Rebound has made a big difference in my grades.

Project Rebound has helped me to keep my head high. I am more concentrated and successful in my classes now. It's the right place for all students to join. With more Project Rebound the better my grades will be and I can be a successful athlete.

Thanks Project Rebound,

Kayanne Braga
9th grade girls' junior varsity



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Web Site: <http://www.newdorphsnyc.org>

Deirdre A. DeAngelis
PRINCIPAL

To whom this may concern,

Project Rebound is a great learning and work place. It helps me as a basketball player get homework done. Instead of doing my homework 1:00 in the morning, I do it in Project Rebound. Project Rebound also helps me with the work. Usually I go home don't understand the homework and fail the class. Thanks to the Project Rebound I have people to help me do the things I don't understand and it helps me pass classes.

As a high school student basketball player, my dream, is to make it to the NBA. Basketball is very important to me and thanks to Project Rebound I figured out that without good grades sport dreams can't come true. Project Rebound is a great place and it should be opened to everyone because all students can gain the advantages of Project Rebound.

Thanks Project Rebound,

Justin Alexander
9th grade boys junior varsity



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Deirdre A. DeAngelis
PRINCIPAL

To whom this may concern,

Project Rebound is a place to sit down and do schoolwork, studying, and get extra help if you need some help with your work. For me, it helps because at home I get very lazy and when I go to Project Rebound I do all my work. Now that I do all my work I understand the importance of school work and basketball. If I push myself in my work I can push myself beyond my basketball skills to go to college and hopefully one day the NBA.

Thanks Project Rebound,

Timothy DeSilva
10th grade boy's junior varsity



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465 NEW DORP LANE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10306

TELEPHONE: (718) 667-8686

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Web Site: <http://www.newdorpsnyc.org>

Deirdre A. DeAngelis
PRINCIPAL

To whom this may concern,

Project Rebound is a great place for me to stay on top of my work and pass all my classes. This makes it better so when I go home I have more time to do other stuff because I can get all my homework and projects done on time. Project Rebound is also helping me plan my college career.

Thanks Project Rebound,

Danielle Atkinson
10th grade girls's junior varsity



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

99 TERRACE VIEW AVENUE, BRONX, NEW YORK 10463 ... TEL (718) 562-5500
FAX (718) 562-5132

April 6, 2006

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for sending my teammates and I a mentor to help us with our schoolwork. Coach Sewell has had a major impact on my ambition to get good grades. When I needed help in history, she was there to help me with whatever I needed, and because of her my grades are getting better. I hope she will be returning next year for my senior year. I feel that it is very important for other schools to have a Mentor because it can benefit them the way it has benefited my team. Many students in schools need a Mentor to help them get good grades so they can become successful in life.

Regards,

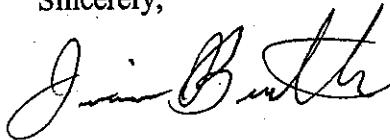
Tatiyanna McMorris
Student
John F. Kennedy

March 14, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

As a freshman, Project Rebound has helped me with my homework and with my studying for tests and quizzes. The program has helped me pull up my grades in my classes. Project Rebound has also taught me things that I have never learned before, so I really think Project Rebound has helped me a lot in my school work. I believe Project Rebound was the best thing that had happened this year. The reason I say this is because I didn't understand my class work until I started going to Project Rebound study halls. These reasons are why I believe other kids should have the opportunity that I have had with Project Rebound.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jessica Bentley".

Jessica Bentley
Freshman
Christopher Columbus High School