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Chief of Police
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February 1, 2006

Dear Chief Craft,

As middle school health teachers in Troy, we see the immediate need for drug education. Hearing true testimonial concerning the effects of drugs is another important piece of this education. The middle school health programs have been very lucky to have Officer Nickie Kaptur come into our classrooms and speak about this topic.

Officer Kaptur has come into each of our classes the past several years to speak about drugs and their effects and it is our hope we can continue to count on having her as a guest speaker for future years to come. Students are interested in this information and it is imperative at this age that they understand the effects that drugs can have on their bodies before they have to make a decision to use a drug or not. Officer Kaptur is not only knowledgeable as a supplement to our instruction, but she is also a very personable speaker who adds humor and helps the students feel comfortable to ask questions about this subject matter. Her factual stories are interesting and powerful to such young, impressionable minds. She provides the legal information students need to be aware of concerning drugs and their effect on society.

We have found through surveys and other information that drug use in Troy is, unfortunately, on the rise in the teenage population. To combat this, we need early intervention and information. One way we can combat this is through guest speakers such as Officer Kaptur.

Having her continue to share information and stories beyond what each of us can share as a teacher is greatly needed. She is a true teaching asset and a very necessary piece of our curriculum. We find it extremely beneficial that the students recognize her from the fourth grade "Choose Wisely" program. They often come in and say, "I know you!". We also appreciate the fact that we can tie our curriculum into her presentation. We know what topics she will cover and she understands the appropriate level at which to speak to young people and gears her stories to their age and interests.

Thank you for allowing her to come in and take an important part in the drug education curriculum in the middle schools in Troy. We hope you can continue to free up time for Officer Kaptur to come and speak to our health students. We cannot say enough about the benefit we see having Officer Kaptur come to each of our schools as the consistent representative for the Troy Police force.

Sincerely,
The Troy Middle School Health Teachers

Alicia Wahls, Ruth Frushour, Patricia Davis, Kevin Wilson, and Jamie Van Houzen
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CC: CAPT MAUER
CITY MGR
LT. SCHULINC

OFF. KAPTUR
OFF. KAPTUR'S DPT FILE
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