

July 21, 2008

Chief Charles Craft
Troy Police Department
500 W. Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084



Dear Chief Craft:

This past school year, I had the pleasure of having the services of your officers and they definitely go above and beyond to educate the youth of Troy High School. This spring I had officers Mark Cole and Russ Barrows do a presentation to my four Business and Personal Law classes (and other teachers also attended with their classes) with their K-9 dogs. They provide a very educational demonstration and showed the students how the dogs find and sniff out drugs. The students thoroughly enjoyed the officer's presentation and the officers were very personable and answered any and all questions the students had. In years past, I have had the pleasure of having Ed Klute along with Mark Cole and Russ Barrows bring in their K-9 dogs and this continues to be a favorite of the students. Ed was always very excited about what he did which always spilled into his presentation—we miss him! Please thank them again, they are extremely professional and exemplary in what they do—it is obvious they absolutely enjoy their duties as police officers.

I would like to again thank you for so graciously allowing my Business and Personal Law students to visit your police station. Russell Weipert is so efficient and personable and has for many years been so cordial with the students and has set up this field trip for us. He gives us a tour of the facility and sometimes the jail, if unoccupied, and then works with the judges and we are able to sit in the courtroom and view the different workings of the District Court. The students always talk about this for days, as this is an excellent opportunity for them to actually see what goes on with our police officers and judges. Many times as we are touring, different officers step forward and also offer their kind expertise on many different topics. This is an extremely beneficial opportunity for our young adults and they are always very welcomed by your officers.

Lastly, Sean Morse, liaison officer, is such an asset to Troy High School. The students have an excellent rapport with him and I feel that with his knowledge and guidance, they behave much better and they actually go to him for advice. I run the peer mediation program at Troy High School, which gives me a different relationship with the students, and many times, a planned party will be halted because of his advice. Over the years, he has freely offered his time coming into my classroom and speaking with my peer mediators when he felt trouble could be brewing. Wayne Lepola also takes the time to visit the classroom with Sean and they talk about obtaining evidence and the students fingerprint themselves; this visit also gives the officers the opportunity to talk with the students about retail fraud. This is a very educational presentation

for the students. Sean also discusses search and seizure laws with the students and laws for minors. Sean really understands the workings of the high school and is very proactive in helping maintain a better attitude amongst our teens when working with law enforcement. Sean brings a wealth of knowledge to the classroom and is an integral part of our school, we will sadly miss him next year as he leaves us; he is an exemplary officer! Hopefully, he will be able to come and visit and continue speaking with the students!

Chief Craft, you should be proud of such a wonderful staff and I thank you for sharing them with the students of Troy High School. Have a wonderful summer!! Thanks again!

Sincerely yours,



Gail J. Yax, teacher
Troy High School

cc: City Manager
D/C Mauer
Captains
Off. Cole/FILE
Off. Barrows/FILE
PSA Weipart/FILE
Off. Morse/FILE
Off. LePola/FILE