



Introductory Letter to Teachers

Counselor Resource

Dear Colleague:

You've been given a set of lessons that deal very specifically with cyberbullying. I believe that this is one of the most comprehensive and complete sets of lessons that has ever been developed on this subject. As a middle school counselor who has been practicing for over 20 years, the developers of this program have brought me in for some consultation. I would be the first to admit that I'm not an expert in curriculum; fortunately the writers of this material are! My strength lies in communication to parents and kids. They thought that my voice might be an added component to this material. We're proposing that I construct a set of letters that corresponds to each lesson. One of the letters will be to the student, one of the letters will be to the parent or guardian – and one of the letters will be to you. Let me share the goals of the letters to the different people.

- **Teacher Goals**

- To cheer you on as you set about delivering the lessons and offer encouragement
- Giving you some strategies that might help you connect with the kids at a different level. These lessons are just a bit different enough that they may take a special filter to view them through.
- To occasionally suggest some real life examples that you might use in your teaching.
- To be a resource for you as you carry the lessons out.

- **Parent Goals**

- To educate them with the same concepts, vocabulary and expectations.
- To provide them with suggestions and strategies to use at home to strengthen the lessons.
- To assist them in specific guidelines that can work to alleviate cyberbullying.
- To empower them in their parenting as they navigate the tough adolescent years.

- **Student Goals**

- To get their attention so that they might take this work more seriously.
- To speak to them with a voice that implies care, concern and understanding.
- To support them as they look to adults for help as they cope with the pain and confusion of cyberbullying.
- To let them know that we – the adults – do know about this and do care to make a change.

I am so very pleased to be part of this grand new endeavor and I hope to establish a relationship with you through these letters that supports this important work and enhances your teaching as well.

Respectfully,

Chris Gentes

