

**Atlantic City High School
1400 Albany Avenue
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To whom it may concern:

June 27, 1997

For each student Master D. Straga begins with the end in mind. This high performing teacher seeks out opportunities to learn about his students more personally, takes an active part in encouraging their enthusiasm, guides their choices and boosts their self-esteem. The more your students trust and respect you, the more they will give to you. Master D. Straga is firm and compassionate setting high standards and helping students strive to achieve realistic goals. In recognition of students' varied needs Master D. Straga's deliberate actions impact student's life long successes. His high performing students overcome challenges with focus on believing in self, considering realistic goals and striving for goals. Master D. Straga sets examples which students can and should replicate to pass on to the next generation.

Class at Tang Soo Karate Academy begins with a well defined supportive learning environment. Master D. Straga's energized presentations include strategies for independent and collaborative thinking manifesting all students to be motivated and engaged in high involvement and active learning.

If students are to reach their full potential, they need the support and encouragement of an entire community of concerned, caring adults. That community includes all of us. It especially includes students' parents. The education of children is a responsibility that must be shared by the teacher and parent alike. To work effectively, teachers need parents to support their academic, disciplinary and homework efforts. The value Master D. Straga places on each child's education, and the manner in which he communicates that attitude to

parents transcends varying family circumstances, ethnic and cultural diversity, poverty and apathy. Master D. Straga expects and receives cooperation. An involved parent can provide the boost to a student's self-esteem that will lead to greater success in school and a more fulfilling and accomplished adulthood.

As a parent, with two children at Tang Soo Karate Academy, I am delighted by Master D. Straga's program especially because of the reinforcement my children receive regarding principles toward good character. In addition, they are the recipients of expert training in Tang Soo Do. As an educator of high school students, the work ethic is not thriving and neither will society. It takes hard work to run a home and many people working harmoniously to run a community. Societal success is contingent upon this strong foundation.

It is evident that Master D Straga's: Future Leaders Foundation is a valuable supplement toward the development of responsible adulthood, democratic citizenship, and productive work! It is my hope and recommendation that our school districts embrace this as part of the curriculum to be available for all students.



Sincerely,
Mrs. Janet Festa
Mrs. Janet Festa
Mathematics Teacher
Atlantic City High School