

Mark Santanello
North Main Street School
215 North Main St.
Pleasantville, N.J. 08232

State of New Jersey
Office of the Governor
CN-001
Trenton, N.J. 08625

Dear Governor Whitman,

I am a second grade teacher at North Main Street School in Pleasantville. My class and I are actively participating in the Future Leaders Foundation program under the instruction of Master Straga at Tang Soo Do Karate Academy.

Many of my students, including myself, are always excited about going to class. Master Straga's instruction is strict yet sincere. This style has started a friendship between Master Straga, the students and myself that is based on trust, respect and care. Master Straga constantly reminds the students about these values and asks that they try to incorporate them into their daily lives as much as possible.

I have seen a great change in many of my students in both their academics as well as social behavior. I honestly feel that this program has a great value in helping the students to work through problems, solve conflicts peacefully and show respect to one another. It is a pleasure to participate in the program, but the greatest pleasure is watching my students take interest in the program and apply it to their lives. I am looking forward to continuing in the program with my students in the years to come. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Mark Santanello