



FSD 145

Freeport School District

MICHAEL SCHIFFMAN, Ed. D
Superintendent
Central Office

December 6, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Mr. Carl Cole and the YES Program. Mr. Cole has been involved in the Freeport School District for the past two years. The district administration met with Mr. Cole to see if he would be able to create a program that would be able to reach some of our toughest at-risk students. Mr. Cole has met with all of our age groups. Last year he met with students in various elementary and middle schools. This year he is and plans to include meeting with high school students in the Freeport School District.

The district asked Mr. Cole to come in and speak to our students regarding coping skills, drugs and alcohol, bullying and character building. Mr. Cole has been successful with the students because of his caring, direct, honest and passionate attitude. Mr. Cole is able to have conversations with the students that the teachers and administrators may not be able to have with the students. The reason he can have these conversations is because of the trust and respect he builds from day one of meeting the students.

Since having the YES Club in the schools many of our students have shown improvement in their coping skills, their confidence and overall behavior. We would like to continue to utilize the YES Program in our district to get more accurate data in order to show how the students are improving. The YES Club is an important social/emotional tool and intervention that the district will continue to utilize throughout the district. Even though we do not have a lot of data, sometimes the only data you need are the smiles and confidence that shines as a student leaves his sessions. I would recommend considering implementing the YES Program into your school district.

Thank You,

Mike Schiffman, Ed.D

Freeport School District Superintendent