



June 15, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter of recommendation for the curriculum, *Healthy Relationships 101*, created by Michael Jasz. As a teacher in the NYC public school system for the last 5 years, I have observed both students and parents communicating in an uninformed and unhealthy manner.

I was one of the first teachers to work with Michael to introduce and develop his curriculum. Immediately, it was clear that this curriculum has the potential to benefit many students and their families. The curriculum focuses on how to build and sustain a relationship, bearing in mind its social context and the expectations that may arise from stereotypes about male and female characteristics as well as the way in which relationships are portrayed in popular culture. The biggest strength of the curriculum is that it teaches students *how* to communicate safely with one another, the importance of knowing *what* to communicate and, finally, *why* we need to communicate.

Michael is passionate about his work, and he continues to challenge not only his students with his ideas, but also himself by continually revising the content and presentation of his curriculum in order to optimally benefit the students.

Healthy Relationships 101 is an honest and forward-thinking curriculum. It sets the stage for a safe environment in which individuals can explore themselves as well as learn about their peers, so they are able to understand one another on a level that prepares them for healthy and worthwhile relations.

I would recommend this curriculum to any institution or academic arena that is looking to create a strong community, making use of the boundless resources of human potential.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katie Jungers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Katie Jungers
NYC Lab School