

March 25, 2009

Dear Mr. Albano,

May I call you George? First and foremost, thank you for the wonderful visit we had at your school last week, 3/16. I've been stewing for over a week on what exactly I wanted to say to you...I prefer hand-written letters to emails and/or official letterhead types. I am still very pumped-up and encouraged from the whole "experience" of your school...I am also challenged as to how WE – Hamburg School – get there. I agree with your basic belief: that all children can learn: the complete refusal to let any child fail to learn.....As I walked through your school, visiting the different classes and teachers I sensed...JOY! The students were happy to be there as were your teachers. There was enthusiasm, incredible good behavior, respect...Your teachers George, great and dedicated teachers, are a key ingredient to your success recipe.....I have always been a "half-full" glass type of girl and I told Steve (Chief School Administrator – Steven Engravalle of Hamburg School District in Hamburg, NJ) we can do this. He knows he can't do it alone.....

Thank you again for a very special day at Lincoln Elementary School. I remain inspired...I can close my eyes and see the colorful hallways, children artwork and writings proudly displayed EVERYWHERE. You have a **small piece of heaven there** – one that our school can hope to imitate. God bless you, your teachers, staff and students.

Sincerely,  
Dawn O'Grady  
Hamburg School, Hamburg, NJ  
Board of Education Member