

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Norwalk Public Schools
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06852
(203) 854-4143
Fax: (203) 854-4101

Mr. George Albano
Principal
Lincoln Elementary School
170 East Lincoln Avenue
Mount Vernon, New York 10552
December 23, 2003

Dear Principal *George* Albano,

It was a great professional pleasure to visit the Lincoln Elementary School. You and the staff were very pleasant and accommodating during my morning visit to all of the classrooms and programs at the school.

As Director of Elementary Education for the Norwalk Public Schools, one of my major responsibilities is to address the issue of closing the achievement gap. In researching for successful school-wide approaches to this pivotal social and educational issue, I was pointed towards the effectiveness of the Lincoln School's continued and long-term resolution of the gap.

Lincoln School is a place where children are encouraged to learn, given the tools to learn and enjoy the experience of acquiring knowledge and life skills. I found the children as well as the staff respectful of each other. Lincoln School has created a vibrant environment in which teaching and learning are palpable acts, based on planning and insight into the needs of children.

With your acquiescence, I intend to return to the Lincoln School at the start of the New Year with representatives of the three of our twelve schools where sub-groups have been identified as not making adequate yearly progress. I believe they will find the visit as inspiring as I did.

On a personal note, as a former twenty-five year resident of Mount Vernon and a parent of children who attended Pennington School, I am pleased to observe such success in our public schools. I am sure you share that sentiment as well.

I look forward to continuing this positive relationship between the Norwalk and Mount Vernon Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Hugh McKiernan

Hugh McKiernan
Director of Elementary Education