

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to recommend Mike Marsteller as a motivational speaker for your school. In the spring of 2011, I had the opportunity to meet Mike through fundraising for the Gettysburg Marathon and Mike's non-profit organization, HCM Foundation. I was immediately impressed that he spent his life's work on helping others who are battling cancer. When I found out he started speaking in schools, I knew our students needed to hear his message.

I was able to get our administration and student council on board to hire Mike to speak at our school in January of 2017. He presented his "Cool to be KIND" program to our 7^{th} and 8^{th} grade students as two separate assemblies and captured their attention right away. He had the presence and skill to unwind a story like an onion and tap into their self-awareness and emotions. There were times when students were laughing and times when things got serious and you could tell they were taking it all in. It was clear through feedback and conversations with both students and staff that Mike was very well received.

At points he talked about his personal story and losing his Father at an early age, but the meat of his presentation focused on the students. He was able to get them thinking about their own lives and gave tools that challenged them to be more resilient, more accepting of themselves and others, how to surround yourself with the right people, and how to use empathy to help others. He capitalized on self-worth, individuality and how we all matter.

Mike is a great storyteller and what separates him from other speakers we've had is the way he presents himself. He is humble, genuine, speaks from the heart and shows the right amount of vulnerability so students really want to hear his advice. He's an incredible role model for young people and our students are lucky to have heard his message.

I fully endorse Mike and his message to any school interested in motivating and supporting their students. I would be happy to answer any questions about his presentation, his presence, and his credibility and can be reached at (717) 846-6789 ext. 1516 or nrossi@cysd.k12.pa.us for further questions or conversations.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Nancy Ann Rossi Middle School Counselor Central York Middle School