

Dear Mr. Feldman,

I am writing this letter to you to express our sincere gratitude in having you come to Brandywine High School to share your presentation about distracted driving with our students. Over the two days, you presented to four classes, and a total of 235, 10th grade students, who listened and were thoroughly engaged in the information that you shared with them about the dangers and stories of being a distracted driver.

Your presentation was a positive experience for our students to hear, as many of them are beginning to drive themselves. Your presentation was very informative on many levels. Many of the students in the days following your presentation shared experiences that they had with family members who were distracted when driving. They also shared stories about how they went about discussing the presentation with parents and older siblings and why they wanted them to pay better attention when driving. Students were eager to share how they used I messages to help break the ice in the conversation and how it seemed to make for a better conversation because the person they were speaking to did not become defensive when they were asked to put their phones down and pay better attention to the road.

When students were asked about whether or not they appreciated seeing the presentation, many of them responded that they felt this presentation should be given to all students, not just ones that are in a driver's education class. They felt that the message that was being delivered could be something that all students should be aware of and how they can and will learn from this experience.

On a more personal level, being the parent of a new driver myself, I was eager to share this information with my own child about the dangers of being a distracted new driver. I took the time to explain to her that not only does she need to be a defensive driver, but she needs to be extremely careful to not be distracted herself. My wife and I explained to her that while we do want to know when she gets to where she is going or is leaving to come home, to be sure that she tells us before and/or after she is parked.

As long as she does this, we will not try to contact her while she is driving. If for some reason we do try to contact her while she is driving, she is not to answer us until she has pulled over and parked safely, and then she can contact us.

Again, we want to thank you for your time and message that you shared with our students and school. We look forward to having you back next school year to deliver this information to our classes again.

Sincerely,

Derrick Christiano
Health/Physical Education Teacher
Brandywine High School