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 220, 10th grade students, who listened and were thoroughly engaged in the information that you shared with them about the dangers and stories of distracted drivers.

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 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.

The message that you provided our students about how they are the ones who are going to be the ones who are "responsible" for the change in others mindset about driving has continued to resonate with many of the students. They truly seem to understand the importance of driving defensively and limiting their distractions.

On a more personal level, my daughter, whose has been driving for two years, continues to use safety measures when she is driving or as a passenger in a vehicle. She has also told me that when she is travelling with friends that are driving, that she has a conversation with the driver about being safe and not being distracted before they even get in the car. Next year she will be off to college, and I hope that she continues to share her thoughts and feeling about distracted driving before getting into a car with her friends.

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 and students again. We feel that this presentation is important for our students to be a part of and hope that you can continue to give this presentation to both students and adults.

Sincerely,

## **Derrick Christiano**

Derrick Christiano
Health/Physical Education Teacher
Brandywine High School