

KISPIOX COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Shannon McPhail, Executive Director
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re: **UP YOUR WATERSHED PERFORMANCE**

Dear Shannon

Thank You very much for bringing Holly and Kevin into the lives of my students. It is very difficult to summarize the many ways they have affected the consciousness, enthusiasm, and self esteem of my students. It has also deeply affected their parents our school and our relationship with a neighbouring school.

Even before we met Kevin and Holly you could tell that this process was clearly laid out for success. The written materials they sent us were intriguing and the CDs of the songs grabbed the students attention immediately. They could understand the importance of the message and wanted to be a part of the process as soon as the lyrics and tunes began to work on and eventually became part of their soul. My students still ask to sing the songs long after the process is over.

Watching Holly and Kevin work with 200 students at a practice is an awesome experience. Within minutes they have all of the students eating out of their hand creating, revising, risking and loving every moment of it. They make a fantastic team. Holly calmly demands that the students reach for the best quality performance possible while Kevin drives them up into an insane level of enthusiasm.

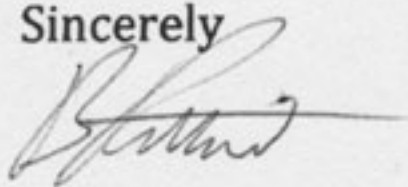
During the practice Holly had the students answering a few environmental questions. This led to students as young as Kindergarten age coming up and making impromptu speeches about saving our watershed. Many of the parents were taken with the messages presented by the students at the performance and found it hard to believe that the students had written these wise messages by themselves.

The songs that Holly and Kevin wrote were inspiring. They were beautiful and apparently simple in their structure but as you look closer at the cyclic poetic message and the variety of presentation I began to have a little understanding of the breadth of talent these two bring to the field. Parent, Joanne Clifford was amazed at the way Holly could use her body movements to bring all of the students into the flow of the music. She also mentioned how Kevin could raise their self esteem quickly with his humour and encouragement.

Several teachers mentioned to me how exciting it was to see our two schools working together on such an exciting project. It was a couple of months work but it was always fun and rewarding. Phil Muir, a local doctor was so excited by the performance that he bought a CD and complimented my students on their performance. This could not have happened without Kevin and Holly's planning, preparation, experience, talent, personality, ENTHUSIASM and professionalism.

Parent, Erica Johnson commented to me after the performance that I looked like a proud parent sitting their watching my students perform. This was true. I was very proud of my students and delighted that they were able to be part of this process with Holly and Kevin. Thank you for making this experience possible and if there is any way that I can be part of this process again I would be most honoured.

Sincerely



Brian Pritchard, Kispiox Grade 3/4 Teacher.