



February 27, 2004

Mr. Larry Bell
Multicultural America
12689 Crossbow Drive
Manassas, Virginia 20112

Dear Larry,

I want to thank you for the wonderful job that you did in training our teachers on our district-wide professional development day in January. The strategies and ideas that you presented were immediately useful to our staff. The week following your training session, I did walkthroughs in several of our schools and found many of the teachers had already displayed the twelve words. I also noted a number of teachers using power names and bragging on students. This year we have had several trainings focusing on the power of the student/teacher relationship and your session further emphasized that we must take the time to develop meaningful relationships with our students if we want to close the achievement gap.

Enclosed are several articles that I have written for our district newsletter as a follow-up to your training. Since your training session, all of our site based decision making councils have endorsed having you back in our district for day #2 next year. It is our hope that you can build on the foundation that was initiated this year and further extend the learning of our staff on these very important strategies and concepts next year.

Thanks again for a great day! Our teachers are still talking about Larry Bell and how much they learned from the session!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandy Embree".

Sandy Embree
Director of Elementary Education/
Professional Development

Enclosures