



June 25, 2008

*Letter of Support
for
Best Buddies Program*

It is my pleasure to write this Letter of Support for the Best Buddies program. We are pleased to have been introduced to this program approximately two years ago. Sabrina Karim, one of the students involved in the program, provided a presentation to our Board of Trustees last year that outlined the program's concept and the activities students were engaged in throughout the school year and beyond. We were impressed and touched by the wonderful relationships that are developing through the program.

Catholic Central High School has embraced this program whole-heartedly and the impact for students has been great. Just recently, the program celebrated its last event for this year and that was a graduation party as two students are leaving and 23 best buddies are graduating.

Other events that Best Buddies have been involved in include: Thanksgiving lunch, presenting a play at the Christmas assembly, a New Year's party, Ash Wednesday mass, fundraisers for a variety of charities, and a track and field meet. Best Buddies drop in for visits in our School to Community classroom to meet with their buddies, they talk on the phone and some pairs have gotten together on weekends to go to movies, shopping or working out at the Y. Some wonderful friendships have developed and some buddies have been together for almost three years now.

We are grateful to have this program and see the benefits of it everyday in the smiles, the confidence and the caring attitude of our participating students. We hope that this program will expand across our system schools and we appreciated the support and leadership of Best Buddies, Canada.

Yours truly,

Wilma de Rond
Director of Education

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The Spirit is Alive

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