



Elmont Union Free School District

REACHING AND TEACHING FOR EXCELLENCE

HOPE KRANIDIS
Principal

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Assistant to the Principal

April 9, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. Chris Soentpiet visited Stewart Manor School on Friday, April 4th, 2008. He gave two excellent and age-appropriate assemblies, one to our kindergarten through second graders and the other for grades 3, 4, 5 and 6. The students and teachers were delighted with his visit. Not only were the assemblies entertaining, but Mr. Soentpiet emphasized important messages for our students. He explained that to be a successful model for an illustrator, one has to be able to follow directions and cooperate. Later, he explained that when a publisher returns work to him for corrections, he does not get upset, but realizes that the publisher is trying to help him succeed. Teachers and students also were excited about a visit from an illustrator for a change since in the past, we had only had authors.

In addition to the two very well-received assemblies, Mr. Soentpiet also conducted an art workshop for our fourth-graders. While I was not present for the whole workshop, the teachers and the children both spoke highly of it.

As library media specialist, I was responsible for arranging the visit. I found that I got immediate responses to my e-mail questions. Mr. Soentpiet let me know ahead of time what he would need the day of the visit, and all the arrangements worked out perfectly.

I always prepare the students ahead of time for an author/illustrator visit by reading the books to them during the weeks preceding the visit. This collection of books that were illustrated by Mr. Soentpiet included books that were appropriate for each of our grades. The books are very beautiful; some fit in perfectly with our curriculum mapping, and others contained ideas that lent themselves well for discussion.

I am very happy to highly recommend Mr. Soentpiet based on our experience.

Sincerely,

Paulette Kolchin
Library Media Specialist