



SANTA
CLARA
UNIFIED
SCHOOL
DISTRICT

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STEVE STAVIS
SUPERINTENDENT

September 12, 2013

To: Frank Leonard

From: Pat Eldridge, School Community Liaison, Santa Clara Unified School District

Dear Frank,

Santa Clara Unified School District and I would like to thank you for your generous support of our High School Students in need. The Backpack donation ensures that these students have the tools they need to stay in school and feel good about being "ready" and fitting in. "It takes a village to raise a child" and I thank you for being part of that village. The students thank you for access to the resources that are so needed.

The High School aged students I work with come from a variety of situations. Often substance abuse or mental illness affects the parent. I have students who have decided to live with another relative, like Grandma, or with a friend, if possible. They are often very much on their own and need any help possible. My goal is to keep these students in school with any and all resources I can bring, and to be nonjudgmental. I had a family with 3 High School students. Mom was in jail and the oldest sister, 21 yrs. old, was in charge of her siblings with help from Social Services. There was no extra money for supplies, clothing, etc. The gift of a backpack that was school appropriate made their lives a bit easier.

We love that you are spreading the message about these students and the hardships they go through on a day to day basis. We look forward to continuing to work with you and improving these student's lives. Again, thank you so much for being part of the village.

Sincerely,

Pat Eldridge, School/Community Liaison

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"The mission of Santa Clara Unified School District is to prepare students of all ages and abilities to succeed in an ever-changing world."