



Megan DeRaps
Certified Athletic Trainer

March 20, 2018

Dear Ray Ciancaglini,

On behalf of Lincoln Academy, we sincerely thank you for coming to our school and speaking to our community. It's an honor to host you because of everything you do and continue to do for our students and students across the country. Your speech in the classrooms on bullying and character really hit home with many students. The attributes of being a good person such as; heart, courage, dreams, goals, determination, morality, and effort all resonated with them. These kids look up to an adult who tries to understand what they're experiencing and you my friend are that person. Many coaches and parents were very impressed with how well you spoke on behalf of your life consequences. You made the choice to turn your situation around by creating your foundation so that you can allow people to learn from your mistakes. That takes courage and heart to put your story out there for others to listen to. We noticed here at LA your passion to change lives. For that, we are forever grateful you made a difference in the lives of our students, athletes, parents, coaches, and our community!

Personally, I want to thank you for inspiring me to want to do better in the field of athletic training. After hearing you speak in November of 2017, I came back to Lincoln Academy with a new outlook. I wished the research was there and that someone had told you about all the negative consequences there are for fighting through a concussion. I knew that a lack of information and education at the time was the big factor. In today's age we have the ongoing research studies and information so you inspired me to educate! Creating this event, I believe, helped our community start spreading the word about concussions. It's not the end, but just the beginning of a shift in the times. I've had parents, coaches, and healthcare professionals ask me more questions, share personal accounts and ask when is the next one, we need to get more people to hear this message.

In conclusion, I can't write thank you enough times in this letter to show how appreciative we really are. You leave a lasting impression everywhere you go with all the lives you make better! Lincoln Academy will always welcome you anytime you're back in Maine!

Sincerely,

Megan DeRaps

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