

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS



ALLEGHENY COUNTY  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
15219

DWAYNE D. WOODRUFF  
JUDGE

JUDGE'S CHAMBERS  
(412) 350-6281

Dear Principal:

I have served as an Allegheny County Juvenile Court Judge for twenty years and am acutely aware of the problem of violence and how it affects everyone in society. Thus, I was pleased to be assigned to establish the Pittsburgh chapter of "***Do the Write Thing***," in 2007. This program is an initiative of the **National Campaign to Stop Violence** (Washington, DC), which gives middle school students an opportunity to write about the impact of violence on their lives and express what they think should be done to end violence. Students are also encouraged to make personal commitments to help reduce violence.

I would like to invite your school's participation in the "Do the Write Thing" program. For additional detailed information, please visit the national website at [www.dtw.org](http://www.dtw.org) and our local program's website at [www.pittdtw.org](http://www.pittdtw.org).

Students have submitted writings from the Pittsburgh Public Schools, the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, Woodland Hills and Penn Hills School Districts, Imani Christian Academy, Manchester Academic Charter School and other school districts. A **DtWT Dinner Celebration** is annually held at **Duquesne University** in mid-May, to honor the **top students** (& their teachers) **from each school**, with one student selected as Pittsburgh National Ambassador. The student Ambassador will then be honored in Washington, D.C. during the DtWT National Recognition Summit in July, where she/he will have the opportunity to meet with national policymakers at the U.S. Capital building and other student Ambassadors from cities across the United States. In addition, a book of their writings will be published and inducted in the Library of Congress.

In closing, the benefits of this program are well researched and documented (see DtWT Educator Packet); the positive impact in these young student's lives and school environments is indisputable. I sincerely hope that we can count on your school's participation, and I would be happy to meet with you to address any questions or concerns. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dwayne D. Woodruff", written over a horizontal line.

Judge Dwayne D. Woodruff