



COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF PITTSBURGH-ALLEGHENY COUNTY, INC.

CIS Academy-Southland

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June 23, 2009

Dear Robin,

This letter is in regards to The Westing Game, Celebration of Reading event.

On behalf of CIS South Hills Academy I would like to express my gratitude to Tickets for Kids for placing an emphasis on reading and getting students excited about books. When The Westing Game was selected as the book for the Celebration of Reading we decided to select some of our students that have had minimal success in the past with reading. It was exciting to watch the book come alive to our students. The check-ins and the art project allowed these students to really understand the story and feel success in reading comprehension. When it was time for our students to attend the play it provided additional opportunities for the story to have a life of its own.

I had the joy of listening to my students discuss the different schools' projects on display and after the performance we compared the actual story to what they saw that evening. This dialogue was rewarding both for me and for the students. It was a wonderful experience that not only built excitement for reading but a new confidence in student reading comprehension.

Thank you again for engaging our students on so many levels and ultimately promoting the joy of learning and reading.

Sincerely,

Wendi Etzel  
Academy Director

Student Name: Nicolo Henderson

Group Name: CIS Academy

Did reading *The Westing Game* and seeing the show get you excited about reading? If so, how?

Reading *The Westing Game* and seeing the show got me excited about reading. It got me excited because I never knew reading could be so fun and full of excitement. Now I like to read in my spare time and I enjoy it.

Student Name: Abbey Holtzlein

Group Name: CIS Academy

Did reading *The Westing Game* and seeing the show get you excited about reading? If so, how?

Yes! Well, I normally don't like to read, but the mysteries kept me on the edge of my seat and made me want to finish the book. I would read it again if I had the chance, and I'd recommend it as well?