## **East Columbus Magnet Academy**

Kevin C. Scott Principal

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On behalf of Principal Kevin C. Scott and East Columbus Magnet Academy, I would like to thank the No Bully Zone Anti-bully Campaign Featuring Fates Fortune and Mathew Sanchez. The No Bully Zone Anti-bully Campaign Featuring Fates Fortune and Mathew Sanchez came to our school reaching 629 students. The Campaign included young entertainers, Fates Fortune and Matthew Sanchez, who performed original music and shared their stories on bullying. Our students learned additional information regarding bullying and were captivated the entire 45 minutes of the specially formulated anti-bully campaign pep rally. The No Bully Zone was interactive, entrancing, and appropriately planned to reach our middle school students. Our students truly enjoyed the pep rally. They were fully engaged and up on their feet during the presentation. We would enthusiastically welcome the campaign into our school again.

The No Bully Zone show features an entertaining and inspirational slideshow about bullying, including many examples and tools to be an Ally. The show empowers **all** students to take a stand against bullying behaviors. The campaign is influential in facilitating students' willingness to speak up, speak out and be heard. It is a unique educational experience. The presentation is jam-packed with entertaining adventures and explores inspirational and enlightening themes like:

- Embracing fears and turning adversity into an ally
- No Bully Zone original music, Anti-Bully awareness, awareness tools, and discovering different views of what bullying means
- Using emotional fuel to turn undesirable situations into positive outcomes
- Affirming that we can all be heroes and wipe out bullying
- Inspiring victims and bystanders to Speak up and Speak out!

Bullying has become a major issue in our society. If decisive action is not taken, many kids will continue to be bullied and made to feel uncomfortable in their educational environments. It goes without saying that when intervention occurs, the likelihood of continued bullying behaviors is greatly diminished.

Specifically, the "NO BULLY ZONE Anti-Bully Campaign emphasizes positive behavior intervention strategies and awareness tools for schools to encourage youth to speak up and reduce the incidences of bullying. The coalition of willing community partners to address these issues consist of musicians, activists, young activists, young adults, victims of bullying and others who want to use their voice to speak out against bullying because "one life lost is one too many". The Campaign is taking a strong stand against bullying, harassment, abuse, and other kinds of emotional and physical violence.

The NO BULLY ZONE Anti-Bully Campaign has distributed a No Bully Zone Video series and original Fates Fortune No Bully Zone music to Muscogee County schools. The group has formed an Annual Anti-bully Walk and created innovative ways to make "No Bullying" a trend worth duplicating.

For the tremendous commitment of entertainers who have given of their time and talents, namely Gabrielle Warren and Jaynia Pugh of Fates Fortune, and Michael Jackson Impersonator, Matthew Sanchez, East Columbus Magnet Academy students, faculty, and staff commends their efforts.

Yvette Y. Jones

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