

Dear Principals,

Do you have incredible students?

I would like to appeal to the side of you that drives you to be an educator, the side of you that finds satisfaction by simply knowing you have encouraged a child to become a better caring person by a simple act of kindness.



In March, there is a day not many are aware of, but can make a BIG difference to a child, and it only takes a moment to do. It is **Absolutely Incredible Kid Day**, March 20th, a day to write letters of support to children in our lives.

Research shows that simple words of encouragement and compassion can make a difference in a child's life. Putting those words into a letter allows the recipient to hang onto those encouraging words and return to them for inspiration and guidance, often for years to come.

Originally designed for an adult to write a child, we have now found that younger youth also appreciate letters from older siblings and upper classman. Having upper classman write a letter to a younger student can:

- Empower the older youth
- Inspire compassion thru letter writing
- Improve academic achievement by engaging students' hearts, heads and hands in a learning process.
- Is a kind act
- Creates friendly communication between students

What I am asking you as a Principal if you would share this with your teachers and PTA.

To find out more and to **download free** AIKD stationary go to www.campfiresnoco.org Kids Day tab.

Letters do not have to be long and formal. Using the AIKD stationary already makes it special. Using a list of adjectives like outgoing, funny, honest or helpful is a good way to start or asking the students to brainstorm words that they would want to hear: you're cool, we're friends, stand together, keep up the good work, We're the (school mascot) we rock! There are lots of helpful hints on our website listed above.

At Camp Fire we appreciate your help in sparking interest in this day. If you have any questions or would like me to "show& tell" at a teacher/PTA meeting let me know.

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North County Communities

Published on Thu, Mar 12, 2009

by **Becky Randall**

Know an incredible kid? Put it in writing!

Published on Thu, Mar 12, 2009

by **Becky Randall**

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Local Camp Fire leaders are urging adults throughout Snohomish County to take part in the 13th annual Absolutely Incredible Kid Day on March 19 by writing letters of love and support to the children in their lives.

Research shows that simple words of encouragement and compassion can make a difference in a child's life. Putting those words into a letter allows the recipient to hang onto those encouraging words and return to them for inspiration and guidance, often for years to come.

Pam Geibel of the Snohomish County Camp Fire Council said, "The power of receiving a personal letter from an adult is incredible for a child. It doesn't have to be a long, formal letter. Just a simple note will also do the trick."

Stephen Covey, author of "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families," has endorsed the Camp Fire initiative, saying, "I have found that letter writing is an extremely effective, non-threatening alternative and can touch kids when they are alone in ways nothing else can. That's why I support Absolutely Incredible Kid Day and invite all adults to write to a son or daughter, grandchild or other child in their lives."

Absolutely Incredible Kid Day has touched more than 600 million people in the 13 years since its inception. Nationally, the goal of Absolutely Incredible Kid Day is for every child to receive a letter. It can be left on a pillow, mailed, stuck in a lunch box, e-mailed, read over the phone or read in person.

Camp Fire USA wants parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, neighbors, educators, mentors and all adults to participate. Don't know where to start? There are lots of helpful tips online at www.campfire.org/a_i_kid_day.

Start by forming a mental picture of the child to whom you'll be writing. Make a list of adjectives to describe him or her, like outgoing, funny, honest or helpful. Writing about specific incidents or memories can be especially meaningful to a child. You'll even find sample sentences to get you started on the Absolutely Incredible Kid Day site.

Celebrate America's children by writing a letter to the kids in your life. It's a simple gesture whose impact can last a lifetime.

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