

SOUTH ROUNT SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-3

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April 7, 1995

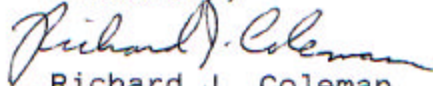
To Whom It May Concern:

Mathew Bayley recently presented a program to our students concerning women's self-protection and esteem issues, rites of passage of men, peer pressure, peer relationship issues, and gender relationship issues. In our school, these issues are very real although we are located in a largely rural area of Colorado. In many ways, the isolation from more enlightened attitudes and less experience with diversity leads to increased avoidance and the building of barriers to learning new attitudes. I was extremely impressed by Mathew's ability to immediately gain the trust of our young men and command their attention for what could have been a very threatening experience for them. His knowledge of martial arts and athletics combined with the discussion of rites of passage and the message that real men do not need to resort to violence to be strong and accepted was extremely powerful.

Mathew's program with our young women, focusing on esteem issues plus giving them valuable techniques and advice on self-defense is one that should be done in every school. There is no doubt in my mind that the information the students gained could one day save their lives. This, plus his ability to bring both genders together for a common goal left our students and faculty feeling that the program was one of the best that has been offered in our school.

It is our goal to have Mathew return to our district for work with both the elementary and middle levels as well as continued work with the high school. Any school personnel who have concerns for student relationships, safety, and self-esteem should seriously consider Mathew Bayley's program.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Coleman
Soroco High School