

(The writers of this letter would like to identify ourselves as Teagan, Kyla, and Anastasia)

Dear Mr. Castellani,

Recently we have noticed that our school is a very Physical Educative supporting school. We are not ones to stand in the way of students having fun with their friends and being fit, but we are also students that feel as if we are not being academically supported enough. After doing a survey project with 50 students ranging from grade 6 - 8 we have found that 19% of them do not participate in a school or afterschool sports team of any kind. Gatestone Elementary is about making everyone feel welcome and supported with their academic and athletic participation decisions. After a second survey with 50 more students we found out that these students who participate in a sport during or after school do not have the time to do schoolwork at home and are concerned about their grades! We understand that saying ' I had hockey practice last night so I could not finish the assignment' or ' Dance was really tiring last night so I went to bed early and forgot to study for the test today' cannot be used as an excuse every time something is not handed in on time.

In light of that we have a proposition: a flexible study group for grade 6 - 8 in the library at second nutrition break on day 2 and 5. This would be a drop-in format of a club, students would not be obligated to come every time there is a study gathering. From personal experience grade six is when you start to get more and more assignments and projects that may be hard to keep up with. Furthermore we feel that this would let students stay in line with their class, hand in work on time, and support those students who are falling behind and need help their school work from other students who could possibly teach them a way to learn the subject easier.

It has also come to our attention that we would need a teacher or two to supervise this whole idea/project. We truthfully understand that teachers would like to spend their lunch with other teachers instead of supervising children when it is their break. But as an observation we noticed that many teachers stay in their own classrooms during break and work on lesson plans and doing other 'teacherly' things. Instead of doing this in their classrooms they could do it in the library whilst looking at some-20 children. (We already have six teachers who have agreed to do a rotating schedule on Day 2 and 5) To make this even more organized we could do have a signup sheet for students who want to stay in on a specific break and beside their name they could write what subject they are working on. Teachers would have a rotating schedule of when supervise.

Every student that we have interviewed feels that this would be a great addition to our school, and that it would help get their grades to be better and ease the stress of assignments and homework that is due. As we previously stated, Gatestone is a school that makes everyone feel welcome and safe. It is a school that creates life habits for students aiming for a prestigious academic path, we want those habits to good and helpful to their future. Concluding this letter, this study group would be beneficial in many ways to students of many ages, all it needs is your approval.

Sincerely,

Teagan, Kyla, and Anastasia from Mrs. Penner and Mrs. Bechars class