

**ATLANTIC COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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BCC News
Attn: Robert Wagner, President
8860 Corbin Avenue #179
Northridge, CA 91324

February 5, 2009

Dear Mr. Wagner,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity you have given the students in this school to use Piano Wizard Academy. This wonderful program has been quite successful and even more enjoyable. The population in this school is very diverse and encapsulates a wide range of disabilities, and abilities, as well as cognitive levels. I have exposed over 80 of the elementary and middle school aged students to Piano Wizard Academy and it has been received with great enthusiasm.

There were many students that were intrigued that when they played a note on the keyboard, not only were they given an auditory response, but a visual response as well. These responses address some of the different learning styles that are encountered in a school setting. The bright colors, numerous themes and immediate verbal and auditory responses are very entertaining to the children that use this program. The ability to control many of the settings, such as tempo, theme, and hand preference makes this program ideal for an educational setting.

The first time the students played Piano Wizard Academy, they were asked to play the first lesson, "Your Dreams" using only their right hand on Level One. Of those students 26% scored over 90% on their first day using the program, many obtaining a score of 100%. After the second day of using Piano Wizard Academy, that percentage increased to 32% of students obtaining a score of 90% or more. Many of the other students scored in the 80% range. Given the diverse population of this school, that is an impressive number. Many of our students may have challenges with literacy, but they can follow the color matching in this program.

Fortunately I have been able to work one on one with a few students that have shown great promise using Piano Wizard Academy. Many of these

students are diagnosed with some form of Autism and they all greatly enjoying playing with this program. Four of my male students diagnosed with Autism obtained a perfect score the first day they played Piano Wizard Academy, with a fifth young man reaching a score of 90% the first day.

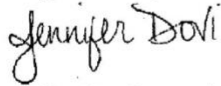
I have the pleasure of working with one of these boys every Friday afternoon. He is able to navigate Piano Wizard Academy quickly and easily. By the third time playing Piano Wizard Academy, he was able to play a song on Level 4 with over 80% accuracy. His classroom teacher states that he wants to be in my music room playing all day long and is excited all day on Fridays waiting for me to come pick him up. This young man is a quiet, reserved young man that has immense musical talent. He primarily plays music by ear, but is now learning to read music with the help of Piano Wizard Academy. The creative musical possibilities for this young man are endless.

Two other autistic male students I see have very limited verbal abilities and therefore have difficulty expressing themselves. The first time I exposed these students to Piano Wizard Academy was during a regular music class. They both were so successful that neither of them wanted to give the other students a turn using the program and kept trying to get up and play it again. More importantly, they both truly had fun and had found a way to express themselves.

Piano Wizard Academy provides enjoyment to many different ranges of students, not only our autistic population. Many multiply disabled students, both verbal and non-verbal have had success and fulfillment with this program. The severe medically fragile students enjoy hearing the music, seeing the bright colors on the screen, and seeing the notes move along to the music. Some of them even laugh when the notes turn into other objects, such as the egg hatching into a baby dinosaur.

I thank you again for giving the students at this school the invaluable opportunity to experience Piano Wizard Academy. It is a remarkable program that is suited for many audiences and learning styles. Please feel free to contact me to discuss the possibilities for Piano Wizard Academy.

With gratitude,



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