

June 14, 2005

Dear Mrs. Natsuhara,

Wayne and I would like to express our appreciation to you and the staff members at Durham Elementary Private School. It certainly has been a rewarding experience for Paul.

When we moved from Newcastle back to Oshawa, we were unsure about putting Paul back into the public school system. Paul has always been an average student with his marks. I found in the public school system, that average school children seem to get ignored and not recognized for their achievements. The students that excel academically and athletically at the public school get all the attention. Paul's best friend from Newcastle is on the other end of this spectrum. He has many learning disabilities. He will be finished grade 7 at the end of June. His mother is very frustrated with the public school system. She has been told by the school that his language and math are at a grade four level. She was told the exact same thing a few years ago. She feels that her son is just being pushed through the public school system. I am not surprised at this because the class size is around 30 students.

Durham Elementary Private School has provided wonderful opportunities for Paul. The small class size has helped Paul get individual attention in subjects that he needed help with. He has done much better in math this year, as he has always struggled with this subject. I don't know how many hours over the years I spent helping Paul with his math. This year, Paul has worked independently at home doing his studies.

Wayne and I will continue to keep Paul in the private school system as he finishes his grades. Besides the individual attention he has received, the atmosphere is very important. We have found the public school system lacks discipline and moral standards. Durham Elementary Private School adheres to both these standards which makes the learning much easier for the students.

Thank you for giving Paul a memorable year. Best of luck in the future for your school.

Sincerely yours,

Cindy Hughes 