



WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON

June 11, 2010

Namaste Elementary Charter School
3737 South Paulina Street
Chicago, Illinois 60609

To the Namaste Elementary Charter School Community:

I want to personally commend you on meeting the criteria for the bronze National Recognition Award from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation.

This accomplishment reflects your outstanding commitment to creating a healthier school environment, and I am pleased that your community is making such strides in fostering student and staff wellness. Over the past year, your dedication to changing habits and enhancing personal fitness has been essential to improving the standards of health in your community. I applaud you and the entire school for making these goals a high priority. As I'm sure you are aware, the Healthy Schools Program has set rigorous standards for recognition, and by earning this award, your school has become a leader in a vital mission.

Childhood obesity is an issue that is near to my heart. I've struggled with weight at different times in my life, and I learned a very important lesson when I underwent quadruple bypass surgery in September 2004. Since then, I've become more aware of the alarming trend toward unhealthy eating and lack of exercise in our nation's youth. My hope when we established the Alliance with the American Heart Association was that we would help young people avoid life-threatening conditions. Your contribution to our efforts plays an important role in realizing that vision, and I thank you for your time, energy, and support.

As you close this school year and prepare for the next, I hope you will remain engaged. With your continued participation, we will help create a brighter future for us all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Clinton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.