

HAMMONTON HIGH SCHOOL

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Ms. Laura Schroff
Via Email

Dear Laura,

On behalf of our teachers, administration and student body at Hammonton High School, I would like to congratulate you on the selection of your book, *An Invisible Thread* for our 2013 summer *One Book* reading initiative.

Our staff, student body and members of our community will read *An Invisible Thread* this summer. The purpose of our *One Book* initiative is to not only encourage independent reading among all students, but to commence a school and community-wide unification through the reading of the same book. Discussions, activities and ideas that ensue as a result of the reading of this book will be magnificent. For the first time ever, our student body voted on the *One Book* selection. I am pleased and honored to tell you that the majority of our students especially chose your book from a list of three books. The human interest aspect of yours and Maurice's story has captured the attention of many at our school. I am hopeful that staff, students and members of the Hammonton community will be moved by your book, and well as inspired into action to offer kindness to those in dire need.

Those who read your book will not be able to put it down. I am also sure that they will be inspired by yours and Maurice's story of a life-changing friendship. Students and adults alike will be expectant to talk with you and to hear a bit more about your relationship with Maurice. Our students will hopefully realize that there are people in the world who exist to "throw them a lifeline" as Maurice says; others will realize that some people in the world need a small act of kindness to get them through their circumstance.

One of Hammonton High School's 2012-2013 Harassment and Anti-Bullying initiatives is themed "pay it forward." Our students and staff have not only been reflecting on the many ways in which kind gestures were paid forward to them, but also have been searching for ways in which to "pay it forward" to others as well. Your kindness toward Maurice is the perfect example of a selfless act that paid it forward.

Thank you for agreeing to visit Hammonton High School this coming September. The students in particular were impressed by your commitment to an author visit and your vested interest in changing another person's life.

Again, congratulations on the selection of your book *An Invisible Thread* for our *One Book* initiative. I hope that this is the beginning of an endeavor that will influence and inspire other students and adults to read your book and to realize that one act of kindness can truly make a difference.

Ann Marie Wanecski
Special Education Teacher
Department Chair, Special Education
Hammonton High School