

**STEVENS HIGH SCHOOL
SUGAR RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER**

L. Paul Couture
Principal

175 Broad St.
Claremont, NH 03743
(603) 543-4220 SHS
(603) 543-4291 SRVRTC

Jill Edson
Vocational Director

Susan Chandler
Assistant Principal

Matthew Laramie
Athletic Director

Alfred A. Kaplinski
Assistant Principal

Enthusiastic Recommendation

Upon what are perhaps rare occasions, meaningful opportunities present themselves to high school principals whereby they are able to have a profound impact on the lives of the students from whom they are responsible. From my first exposure to the message and the messenger of *Legacy Of Hope*, I knew that I had happened upon one of those opportunities. Deeply moved by her message when experienced as a member of an adult audience fortunate enough to experience her performance, I sought the opportunity to share the experience with high school students, staff, and parents at Stevens High School in Claremont, New Hampshire in conjunction with a school wide Theme observance of "Healthy Choices & Personal Safety."

Formal and informal feedback from students, staff, and parents alike was nearly unanimous in agreement that Susie Vanderlip's presentation will be unparalleled. There were those in her audience who could not react in terms of satisfaction. To the person, they were those members of Susie's audience whose lives had been personally impacted by substance abusers in their lives. Susie got "too close" for them to merely sing her praise because she had discovered and seemed to understand a piece of their misery. Spellbound, they watched her and heard her talk about their experiences as if they were their own. She was real to them because her own personal experiences were real to them. They were clearly guarded in their feedback because a positive response would have been too revealing.

Susie Vanderlip's *Legacy of Hope* was not an assembly we asked high school Students to endure as is too often the case. It was not a performance we hoped they Would enjoy. It was a life-changing or a life-clarifying experience and, for some, a picture of what life is yet could be.

Caring, warm, personable, professional, and incredibly talented, Susie Vanderlip is a "must get."

Sincerely,



L. Paul Couture
Stevens High School
175 Broad St.
Claremont, NH 03743
pcouture@claremong.k12.nh.us
603 543-4220