



**WATERBURY CAREER ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL**  
**175 Birch Street, Waterbury, Connecticut 06704**  
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**Mr. Michael Harris – Principal**  
**Mr. Peter Flammia, Assistant Principal**  
**Mrs. Jennifer Franceskino, Assistant Principal**



May 15, 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the students and staff at Waterbury Career Academy, we are extremely grateful to Mr. Elvin Turner and Dr. Katrina Turner, who served as presenters to our students titled **You Can Make a Difference** on Tuesday, May 9, 2023. The 10<sup>th</sup> grade students of the Health Science Academy were selected to attend the presentation.

After our initial introductions, the collaboration came together quite quickly. We met via Zoom to discuss an overview of the program, target audience and content. As we talked, nutrition and diseases associated with health disparities, the devastating impact of diabetes and heart disease on our Waterbury community and how the students can impact change with knowledge dominated our discussion. We unanimously agreed this was the content the presentation would discuss. The presentation slide deck was shared with me prior and it was outstanding. Dr. Turner highlighted the valuable role Medical Assistant plays in an office, reinforcing the course we offer to our 11<sup>th</sup> graders.

A few more emails to finalize the logistics and we were ready to go for May 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. The students were gathered in the cafeteria; in total 63 students attended. Dr. Turner captured the attention of the students with her engaging smile as she delivered a well-prepared, well-organized presentation, adding in personal accounts from her life and her educational journey. Her message was impactful and genuine. As I walked around the tables I sensed a feeling of connection between the students and Dr. Turner, that filled me with hope, as we still are struggling with “reaching” students post-Covid. The students felt comfortable, asking questions and sharing their thoughts.

Thank you both, for **Making a Difference** for the students of Waterbury Career Academy!

It is, therefore, with great pleasure that I enthusiastically look forward to Mr. Elvin Turner and Dr. Katrina Turner, returning in the fall for a second event with our rising Health Science sophomores.

Sincerely,

Linda Richard RN

Health Science Academy Instructor

Career and Technical Department Chair

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