



We had a great time at our Middle School Overnight Retreat!

What a weekend! Beyond Differences leaders from nine middle schools went to Walker Creek Ranch for two days of leadership training! Topics included overcoming stereotypes, groups and cliques, being an upstander vs. bystander, mindfulness, and how to end social isolation at their schools! What a memorable, meaningful retreat!



National Be Kind Online Day was a great success!



Schools from across the country hosted **Be Kind Online Day** on October 22! From our **#10DeepBreaths** Video Contest to thousands of students taking the Be Kind Online Pledge, to free digital citizenship curriculum we gave teachers around the country: Our message of kindness, inclusion, and building healthy relationships was heard loud and clear!



In Portland, Oregon, **Beyond Differences** leaders were up at 5 A.M. to set up for National Be Kind Online Day! Additionally, Beyond Differences sponsored three assemblies where **Miss Black Oregon** spoke about her own experience dealing with social isolation.

Congratulations to **Venetia Valley School** in San Rafael, CA and **Roseway Heights K-8** in Portland, OR for winning the **#10DeepBreaths Video Contest** for **Be Kind Online Day!**



Evening Event - National Be Kind Online Day

Featured Blog Post:

[How to Keep Your Kids Safe Online?](#)

[Brilliant One-Sentence Advice From Larry Magid](#)

by John Pearce

[MVGATE Blog](#)

I'm happy to say I was able to attend the Be Kind Online event last night sponsored by **Beyond Differences** and the **Marin County Office of Education**. And keynote Larry Magid, famed tech columnist and radio host, offered the best advice I've ever heard on how to keep our kids safe online. Amidst the blizzard of social network options, the tsunami of content and sources kids have access to, and the deluge of people good and bad posting and trolling, parents can't hope to control all kids see and do online. The solution? Make sure kids always have a parent to turn to when needed. And the way to preserve that precious recourse?

"Have dinner together every night."

Wow. And exactly right. Kids on the web are going to encounter hate and love, inspiration and sickness, and the entire beautiful and frightening cacophony of the world. **What they need is a loving adult they know they can talk to**, just being there when they need them. Dinner together won't solve every problem online by a long shot, but knowing we can always talk, that we're always there, provides kids the essential access point to your wisdom and support. Not to mention keeping up on the latest from 1D.



Teen Board of Directors at National Be Kind Online Day, October 22, 2015

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 1, Teen Board Meeting, 4:00pm - 6:00pm, 711 Grand Avenue, Suite 200 San Rafael, CA

Tuesday, November 10, National Philanthropy Day, Association of Fundraising Professionals Honors Beyond Differences with Vineyard Award, 11:00am - 2:00pm, The Westin St. Francis, San Francisco, CA

Thursday, November 12, Marin Interfaith Council Honors Beyond Differences, 6:00pm - 8:30pm, Mill Valley Community Center, 180 Camino Alto, Mill Valley CA

Saturday & Sunday, November 14-15, Middle School Overnight Retreat w/ Alameda County & Marin County Schools, Nature Bridge Conference Center at Marin Headlands

Sunday, December 13, Parents Night Out, 5:00pm - 7:00pm, Mill Valley Community Center, 180 Camino Alto, Mill Valley, CA. Spend an evening with our middle school LAMP students and our high school Teen Board of Directors as they present how they work towards ending social isolation at local schools!

Respectfully,

John Finerock

Director of Student Programs, Beyond Differences

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