BEACHWOOD MIDDLE *SCHOOL*

2860 Richmond Rd., Beachwood, Ohio 44122

Phone: 216-831-0355 Fax: 216-831-1891

**Challenge Day Permission Slip**

The goal of the Challenge Day Program is to build community and to help stop the teasing, violence and alienation that is so deeply a part of the school experience for millions of young people every day. Challenge Day is a powerful and transformational day that can change the way people view each other forever. It is a day of fun, friendship and new possibilities.

**Challenge Day will be on Thursday, 2/6/2014 from 7:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.**

**A box lunch is provided.**

**Location: Beachwood Middle School**

I give my permission for my child/ward to participate in the Challenge Day Program. I understand that the event is not required and that my child’s/ward’s participation is voluntary. I further understand that Challenge Day and the sponsoring school/organization, its officers, employees or agents assume no liability either directly or indirectly for injury or accident resulting from or in any way connected with this event.

I understand that the Challenge Day Program will deal with a wide range of issues such as leadership, self-esteem, social oppression, drug abuse, violence, racism and teasing. I also understand that the program will be fun, empowering, eye-opening and emotional. I have read the attached letter and have discussed confidentiality with my child/ward and support his/her participation. I further understanding that my child/ward may be invited to participate in future Challenge Day Programs at his/her school, that members of the print and film media may be present at this event and that my child/ward may be photographed, interviewed or quoted as a participant in this program.

**I have carefully read this statement and fully understand its contents. I am aware that this is a release of liability of Challenge Day and the sponsoring school/organization, its officers, employees or agents.**

I give my permission for my child/ward *(name)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the Challenge

Day to be held at *(location)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name *(please print)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Permission slips must be turned into the office by Friday, January 31, 2014

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**Parent/Guardian Invitation**

**DEAR PARENT OR GUARDIAN:**

It is our pleasure to invite you and your child/ward to attend the award-winning Challenge Day Program. Since 1987, the Challenge Day programs have touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of teens and adults nationwide. The Challenge Day Program has received numerous awards from the juvenile justice system, government officials and many school districts and cities throughout the nation. The program was also featured in the book Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul and the Emmy Award-winning documentary *Teen Files: Surviving High School.*

Challenge Days are powerful, high-energy programs in which youth and adult participants are guided through a series of experiential learning processes. The overall goals of the program are to increase personal power and self-esteem, to shift dangerous peer pressure to positive peer support and to eliminate the acceptability of teasing, violence and all forms of oppression. Challenge Day programs are designed to unite the members of the school and/or community and to empower them to carry the themes of the program back to the greater school population. Challenge Days successfully address the issues of violence, teasing, social oppression, racism, harassment, conflict management, suicide, peer pressure, alcohol and drugs.

During the program, youth are given several opportunities to speak out about what’s really going on for them, and what they need from one another. Please note that while our program focuses primarily on global and community issues and concerns, individual students can and often do share personal difficulties and experiences with the group. The process of sharing is often both empowering and emotional. For this reason, it is important that your child/ward be aware that while confidentiality is one of the primary norms for program participation, we can never guarantee confidentiality on a large group level following the day. (We will remind the participants of the importance of confidentiality.)

At the conclusion of the program, the majority of youth leave feeling bonded, empowered and committed to making a positive difference. At times youth may need additional support. Students will be informed of possible resources, however it would be a great gift to your child/ward if you can be available to listen to any feelings or responses s/he may have following the program.

We strongly encourage parents, teachers and community members to participate. Please contact your School Coordinator, Mr. Paul Chase, if you are interested in being a part of the program, or if you have questions about anything related to this specific day. Please contact our office if you would like more information about our programs.

Sincerely,

***The Challenge Day Staff***