Dear Parent and/or Guardian,

Hello! My name is Dr K. Harris and I am very excited to have the opportunity to teach your child about Forensic Science. When I tell people I teach this class, I usually get the question, “What is Forensic Science?” There is no doubt that the study of forensics has become very popular. The number of TV shows (CSI, Law and Order, NCIS, Bones, etc.) points to the interest that America has for crime scene investigations. This course looks beyond the popular dramatic view of a crime scene and analyzes how science is used to solve crimes. We will be looking at a variety of disciplines that fall under the forensics blanket: Fingerprinting, Hair and Fiber Analysis, Glass Analysis, Toxicology, Forensic Anthropology, Forensic Entomology, Ballistics, and Cause of Death.

Because of the nature of this subject, your child will be exposed to materials relating to death and crime scenes. We frequently analyze real-life cases and some material can be graphic. If at any point during the semester you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Parent input is vital to success in the classroom and to succeed your student must be willing to participate in class. The course is based on hands on group activities; please encourage your child to participate with a positive attitude! This course is an elective and I have every intention of making it engaging and enjoyable for your student!

Throughout the semester your child will be learning methods of evidence collection. In order to practice this, we will be taking fingerprints, bite marks, shoe prints, hair samples, etc. from every student in the class. While participation in these activities is mandatory, at no point will any of this information be made public. It is simply for learning purposes and will never leave the classroom.

I cannot express how much I am looking forward to getting to know your child. In order to jump start the year, please complete the attached parent survey and return with your child.

I know it will be a pleasure to have each one of your children in my class and I can’t wait to get to know them!

Sincerely,

Dr. K. Harris

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