

December 7, 2016

Dear Seventh Grade Parents:

We are writing to inform you of two upcoming units in seventh grade science class: Nervous System and Human Reproduction.

Neuroscience Unit: In collaboration with researchers from the Buck Institute on the Aging, we have designed a Neuroscience Unit aligned with Next Generation Science Standards. In the next few weeks, seventh grade science students will gain an understanding of the structure and function of the nervous system and cell communication through neuron model building and dissection of a sheep's brain.

Activities presented our intended to help students understand and gain an appreciation for brain complexity. Learning objectives include:

- Build and explain the structure and function of a neuron
- Demonstrate nerve impulses and cell communication
- Practice scientific observations and dissection techniques
- Identify major parts of the brain and explain their functions

Human Reproduction: The Human Reproduction will begin in your child's science class starting mid-January, 2017. As a prerequisite to genetics, this unit will include the study of puberty, reproductive anatomy and physiology, menstruation, conception, pregnancy and childbirth. Topics such as sexually transmitted diseases, birth control and abstinence may also be addressed. All instructional materials are available for preview by contacting your child's science teacher at 435-1468.

If you do NOT want your child to participate in this instruction, please return the lower portion of this letter to the school office no later than January 9, 2015. Alternative assignments will be provided for your child. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that your child will participate.

Sincerely,

Teresa Oefinger and Katie Baker, Seventh Grade Science Teachers
Alan Vann Gardner, Principal

I do not want my child, _____, to participate in the Family Life Education lessons.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date