Dear Parent or Guardian:

I am writing to tell you about an exciting project we are about to do in our class.

As you might know, in our exploratory courses will be using the teaching method of Project Based Learning, or PBL, to help students learn better. A project motivates students to gain knowledge, and they remember it longer. Projects give students the chance to apply the skills they learn in school to personally relevant and real-world situations. Your child also learns skills in PBL such as how to think critically, solve problems, work in teams, and make presentations. These skills will help students succeed in the future, both in school and in today’s work world.

We will be doing the following projects in FACS this year, 2016-2017.

**Grade 6: Restaurant Design**

**Driving Question:** How can I use my knowledge of food preparation, nutrition and design to create a restaurant? ***The driving question is what focuses our work.***

**Grade 7: Kids and Communities**

**Driving Question:** How can I use my knowledge of children, nutrition andtextiles to create a child-care package with a focus on literacy, nutrition and age-appropriate toys?

# Grade 8: Design

**Driving Question**: Can I design a building or facility to meet the needs of community members in terms of housing, industry, recreation, education and healthcare?

Students will be involved in *researching on the Internet, working in groups, addressing the driving question and preparing a group presentation.*

Students will be assessed individually on their content knowledge, their collaboration skills, and their presentation skills. All assignments and grading rubrics will be posted on this website to keep your student and you fully informed as to classroom assignments, deadlines, and expectations. As parents or guardians, you can discuss the project at home, encouraging your child to think hard and ask questions about the topic. You can also support the project by [*helping in the classroom, providing expertise and resources, etc.*]

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the project!

Sincerely,

Denise Lingscheit

FACS Instructor, North Middle School

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