

Parent Consent Form – Student Small Group Research Project

Your student has been invited to participate in a research study conducted by Michael James Lambert from Portland State University, Counselor Education Department. The researcher hopes to learn how an academically and socially supportive small group helps new students succeed in school and connect with the school community. This project is being conducted in conjunction with the master’s degree requirements for the school counselor education program at Portland State University. Oversight of this project is provided by Lisa Aasheim (school counselor education program director, Portland State University) and Lorrie McKedy (Centennial high school counselor). As a newly enrolled freshman male in the Centennial school district, your student was selected as a possible participant in this study.

In this small group, students will meet on Tuesday mornings from 7:00 to 7:30 for 10 weeks starting on January 7th and lasting until March 18th (January 21st will be excluded due to finals). The half hour group time will be used to discuss goal setting, long term and short term goals, planning for success, self-awareness, and overcoming obstacles. There will be breakfast offered at each group meeting. Since students will be working and sharing within a group, we cannot ensure the confidentiality of what is shared in the group. While this is true, each student in the group will be strongly encouraged to keep group work confidential and each student will be informed that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Students will understand that joining and withdrawing from the group is voluntary. While sharing will be encouraged, group members will understand that they will not be forced to share more than they are comfortable with. Students will also be able to talk to their counselor to address any issues that may arise within the group. In addition to contributing to research that may help other students in the future, your student may also benefit from this group through an increase in engagement in their academic success and the school community.

The researcher will be utilizing data on class grades and attendance as well as administering a survey on school connection before and after the group is complete. Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can be linked to you or identify you will be kept confidential. In order to ensure confidentiality, no names of students will be linked to the data obtained. The completed surveys will be kept confidential by not being associated with students’ names and being kept in a locked file cabinet in a secured office in the counseling center.

Your student’s participation is voluntary. They do not have to take part in this study, and it will not affect their relationship with Centennial high school teachers or staff. Your student may also withdraw from this study at any time without affecting their relationships with Centennial teachers and staff.

If you have questions or concerns about your student’s participation in this study, please contact **Michael Lambert** (mjl4@pdx.edu, 503-762-6146) or **Lorrie McKedy** (Lorrie_McKedy@centennial.k12.or.us, 503-762-6146).

Your signature indicates that you have read and understand the above information and agree to allow your student to take part in this study. The researcher will provide you with a copy of this form for your own records.

Signature

Date

Print name