 JA BizTown Volunteer Information Introduction to JA BizTown Letter

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This year, our class will participate in an exciting Junior Achievement (JA) program called

*JA BizTown. JA BizTown* encompasses important elements of community and economy, work readiness, financial literacy, and business management. As part of the program, we will spend the day at the *JA BizTown* site on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(*date*). This on-site visit will provide students with an opportunity to apply what they have learned in a realistic setting. Each student will assume a job, sell products, receive a paycheck, work on a business team, repay business loans, shop, and manage a personal bank account. Throughout the program, students are encouraged to use critical thinking to learn about key economic concepts as they explore and enhance their understanding of free enterprise.

Every week or so, you will receive ***A Family Newsletter***. The point of these are to keep you informed and encourage you to talk with your child about his or her classroom learning. The goal of experiential education programs such as *JA BizTown* is to help students see how classroom learning connects to real-world actions and events. Students acquire knowledge through hands-on classroom activities and discussions and then seek relevance between their new learning and their future lives. Consider trying a few of the *BizTalk!* offered in each newsletter. If you relate what the student is learning in class to what you actually do in your day-to-day life, learning will be more lasting and meaningful.

Because of their unique learning format, students remember JA’s capstone simulation experiences for many years following their visits. We hope your child enjoys the *JA BizTown* experience and that you can live a little of it, vicariously, through them!

To make the simulation visit a real success, we need 20 to 36 volunteer facilitators to accompany us to *JA BizTown*. Volunteers who attend the simulation must also participate in a training to prepare to work with the students. This training will be a virtual, but is required to attend the simulation

There is a cost for the curriculum and on-site visit. The local JA Area Office works with area businesses to cover most of the cost, but there is a school fee of $\_\_­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ per student. We hope to cover the school fees by (*date*) and ask for your support.

We look forward to participating in this exciting educational opportunity with you; we hope that you will be interested in volunteering to accompany our students and serve as a facilitator for the day.

Sincerely,

(Teacher’s Signature)

JA BizTown™ VOL-5

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