Date

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your daughter is being offered a classroom session on breast health and breast cancer topics, including information about risks for breast cancer, mammograms and myths and facts about breast cancer.

This information will be provided as part of the Project Early Awareness program, which was designed to educate 10th, 11th and 12th grade girls in Washington, D.C., where women die from breast cancer at a high rate. This program will help students understand breast cancer and the importance of knowing what is normal for the individual and telling their health care provider if they see any changes. Also, the girls will be given take-home packages for their mothers and other female relatives to provide them with information on local mammography programs and help dispel myths and fears about breast cancer and mammograms.

There are no anticipated risks in the program. There is an unlikely risk that your child may experience some anxiety or fear about her own breasts after the session. The students will be instructed during a regular class, depending on which class is considered appropriate by your daughter’s high school. Classes generally last between 45 and 60 minutes. Most likely, the breast health session will be held during gym, English or health class. A health educator will teach about breast cancer risks and breast health awareness.

By educating young women at an early age, Project Early Awareness will serve to instill good breast health habits, alleviate fears about breast cancer and encourage them to get mammograms when they are older.

You can be assured that information collected on this project will not be linked to individual students. The quizzes that your child will take use code numbers that identify only the school, not the individual student. The quizzes are not graded and do not affect in any way her grade. Your daughter will not receive any money for participation.

If you agree to have your teenage daughter participate in the program, she is still free to withdraw consent and not participate in the session without jeopardizing her relationship with [name of high school].

To address comments or questions, please contact [name] at [phone number] or [email address].

Sincerely,

Name  
Title