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Gary DePue, *Highway Commissioner*

**FRANK M. ZUCCARELLI**  
*Supervisor*

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October 1, 2015

Greetings Dr. Adams:

Thornton Township Youth & Family Services has been facilitating a successful after school program for at least 9 years. The specifics of the program have changed based on participants and culture.

This year, the program is planned as follows:

- Monday – Thursday
- 3 hours (3:00pm – 6:00pm)
- Homework help is priority
- Subject development (participants challenged in specific school subjects will get additional help when available)
- Physical development (1 – 3 times a week, participants will be encouraged to exercise their bodies via sports and physical activities)
- Culinary classes (1 – 4 times a month, qualified participants will have the opportunity to learn culinary arts @ a Thornton Township building)
- Mechanical Engineering classes (1 – 4 times a month, qualified participants will have the opportunity to learn basic mechanical skills @ a Thornton Township building)
- Junior Achievement classes (1 – 4 times a month, qualified participants will have the opportunity to learn entrepreneurial skills)
- Bi monthly field trips (during non-program and non-school hours, qualified participants will have the opportunity to be escorted on a fun/learning field trip)
- College Tour (In the spring of 2016 qualified participants in the 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades will have an opportunity to take a college tour)
- Cost of the program (not including College Tour) is \$60
- Program runs October 13<sup>th</sup> 2015 – May 13<sup>th</sup> 2016
- Targeted community is students in the area and Brooks School

#### Effectiveness:

- In previous surveys completed by participants and parents regarding our programs, approximately 2/3 of those surveyed reported better grades, more confidence in learning, and a better understanding of subjects
- Also, approximately 2/3 of those surveyed reported significant improvement in behavior
- Each year, we have a handful of former participants who have aged out of the program return to us and desire to be involved in the program due to how the program impacted them
- This year, we intend to collect more objective data regarding the effectiveness of the program

#### Expectations of District 152:

- To provide the program with ample space (this includes 2- 3 classrooms that will comfortably seat 30 participants, the gym and computer lab)
- To allow our supplies to be locked in a classroom (in and on top of a locked storage cabinet)
- To do a call blast to participants about the program
- To distribute provided flyers to students
- To provide instructors with a copy access code
- To allow registrations to take place at Field School

#### Registration material for parents:

- Please see the attached material as a sample
- Registrations are facilitated by ASP Management
- At the time of registration, parents/legal guardians attend, participants attend, documentation is required (Valid State ID or Driver's License, last four of social security number, \$60 cash)
- Parents receive a copy of expectations & guidelines & receipt