Date

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child is eligible to register for Seminar class as an eighth grader. Seminar, a course that is part of the curriculum of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Junior High, is an elective offered for highly motivated independent learners. Your child is eligible for this class based on his/her recent Iowa Assessments results. Eligibility for Seminar is based on scores between the 97th to 99th National Percentile Rank on the Core Composite or Complete Composite.

Seminar meets on an alternate day basis for the entire year. It is designed for the exchange of ideas in research and discussion form. Students work on studies that culminate in individual projects.These units of study include:

* Information Detectives

This unit emphasizes critical thinking related to advertising, propaganda and persuasion techniques in print, television and on the Internet. Some areas addressed include teen market strategies, consumer buying power, and stereotyping in marketing.

* Visionary Cities

Students will research and develop a project related to a future city. Students adopt the identity of city planners as they explore the elements that are necessary to building strong communities.

* Looking to the Future

Students explore philosophy and meaning from constructivism to objective naturalism to the subjectivity of truth. Students reflect on meaning and happiness as they construct a vision for academic, financial and mental health in their futures.

The name of this course on your registration is Seminar. Seminar is an excellent opportunity for students of high abilities to be together for discussion and learning activities.

Sincerely,

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\_\_\_\_JH Counselor