

Volunteer Information

Introduction to *JA BizTown* Letter

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This year, our class will participate in an exciting Junior Achievement 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* facility on _____ (date). This on-site simulation will provide students with an opportunity to apply what they have learned in a realistic setting. Each student will assume a job, produce and/or sell products or services, 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 skills 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 communications is 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!* discussion questions offered in each newsletter. If you relate what your 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 Junior Achievement'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 14 to 24 volunteers to assist students at *JA BizTown*. Volunteers who attend the simulation will participate in a training session to prepare to work with the students. The information concerning training, and more information about this volunteer opportunity, will be sent to you as the simulation date nears.

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

Sincerely,

(Teacher's Signature)