

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On (date) _____ your child's class will be participating in The AWAY Project. The AWAY Project is an educational program designed to inform students on how their daily actions connect to the abstract and international issue of waste management.

The AWAY Project consists of a weeklong experiment on waste diversion for middle and high school students. On Monday, students learn about how excessive waste is affecting the environment, economy, and health of humans and wildlife. Students are then lent "AWAY" bags for the week. These bags are made locally from 100% waste materials including used and misprinted vinyl banners. Throughout the week, students are instructed to collect and carry their waste in these bags (with exception to biodegradable, sanitary, or hazardous waste). On Friday, students empty their bags to identify where their trash came from and where it will ultimately go. They work in small groups to brainstorm and develop personal and tangible lifestyle solutions to reduce their use.

Since its start in 2013, The AWAY Project has visited over 30 schools, reached over 6,000 students, and collected 63,773 trash items. Because of a grant through The City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department, we are able to offer this project to city-wide schools at no cost at all (including our educator, materials, and management). It provides an opportunity for teachers to offer environmental education relating to waste issues that they may not otherwise be able to. The AWAY Project would like to continue reaching as many classrooms as we can, but this is not possible without the cooperation of your student returning the AWAY bag. Please help us by reminding your child to return the AWAY bag at the end of the week.

We appreciate your understanding and are excited to be given the chance to bring The AWAY Project to your child!

Sustainably,



I have read and understand that the AWAY Project will be visiting my child's classroom and the importance of returning the AWAY bag at the end of the week.

No, my child should not have the responsibility of borrowing and returning an AWAY bag

Child's Name _____ Teacher _____

Parent's signature _____ Date _____