



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* site on _____ (date). This on-site visit will provide students with an opportunity to apply what they have learned in school in a realistic setting. Each student will assume a job, produce and/or sell products, receive a paycheck, work on a business team, repay a business loan, 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 ***JA BizConnect*** 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 *Talking Prompts* offered in each newsletter. If you relate what the 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 many volunteer facilitators to accompany us to *JA BizTown*. Volunteers who attend the simulation must also participate in a 45 minute training the morning of the visit to prepare to work with the students. ***I will be emailing out a link to sign up for volunteering spots; first come, first serve!***

The cost of the curriculum and on-site visit is \$30.00 The local JA Area office works with area businesses to cover most of the cost, but there is a school fee of \$15.00 per student.



JA BizTown®

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

Sincerely,

(Teacher's Signature)