

Students, Parents and/or Guardians:

I hope this letter finds you excited and eager about your next journey into secondary education!

The purpose of this letter is to inform you about our Science Research program at JMS and provide some information to help answer any questions you may have and if it's a class that would be of interest to your academic goals.

Science Research is a year-round elective taught within our science department and is taken *in addition to* their core science class. The objective of the Science Research program is to allow students to develop their own science research project and attend the Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

Throughout the first semester, students will explore different areas of interests, such as chemistry, engineering, robotics, or behavioral science (just to name a few). Based on their personal or academic interests, they will choose an area of study and develop a question or problem they would like to research. They will develop their research plans to include a rationale, hypothesis, procedure, and safety plan to be approved by the fair directors. Once approved, they will be able to begin their own experimentation and data collection. After experimentation is complete and conclusions are reached, their research is presented at the Regional Science and Engineering Fair in the late winter/early spring (Dates TBD).

While this class is very exciting and hands-on, it requires much self-management and motivation from the student in order to be successful. The ideal candidate for this class would possess an interest in science and independent research, the ability to follow directions, and have an excellent behavioral record. Further, the student should have a strong background in reading and writing.

Please complete the application and return to the front office at Jefferson Middle School. Interested candidates will additionally need **two** teacher recommendations (see attached).

If you have any further questions please contact:

Jaclyn Tipton Science Research Teacher Phone (321) 453-5154 (Extension: 32808) tipton.jaclyn@brevardschools.org

#### **Student Application**

Students: Please fill out the application form carefully. Answer all questions truthfully and in complete sentences. Feel free to use the back of this paper if you need more space.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_

- 1. Briefly explain why you are interested in taking science research.
- 2. What do you feel would be the most challenging part of taking science research?
- 3. How would you describe yourself to your new teachers at Jefferson Middle School?
- 4. What are your future plans for high school, college and/or your career?
- 5. What area of science are you most interested in and why–Do you already have a science project in mind? Tell me about it.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents, are you available to help your student with their science research project at home, if needed?

\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

#### **Teacher Recommendation Form**

Teachers: This form is to remain confidential. If you are sending this form with the student, please secure it in an envelope and <u>sign across the seal</u>. You may also send it separately through the courier to Jefferson Middle School-Attention: Jaclyn Tipton.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Please use the following scale when describing the student:

5: Strongly Agree

4: Agree

- 3: Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 2: Disagree
- 1: Strongly Disagree

Ideal Traits	5	4	3	2	1	0
Student is self-motivated and needs very little (to no) support to complete tasks.						
Student has great behavior and needs very little (to no) intervention.						
Student prioritizes their academics and always puts forth their best effort.						
Student is not discouraged by challenges-they are able to think creatively to navigate tough situations.						
Student has strong skills in reading and writing; they are able to write complete, meaningful, and novel thoughts without plagiarism.						

Most Recent: FAST Reading Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_ FAST Math Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Further Comments:

Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Teacher Recommendation Form**

Teachers: This form is to remain confidential. If you are sending this form with the student, please secure it in an envelope and <u>sign across the seal</u>. You may also send it separately through the courier to Jefferson Middle School-Attention: Jaclyn Tipton.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Please use the following scale when describing the student:

5: Strongly Agree

4: Agree

- 3: Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 2: Disagree
- 1: Strongly Disagree

Ideal Traits	5	4	З	2	1	0
Student is self-motivated and needs very little (to no) support to complete tasks.						
Student has great behavior and needs very little (to no) intervention.						
Student prioritizes their academics and always puts forth their best effort.						
Student is not discouraged by challenges-they are able to think creatively to navigate tough situations.						
Student has strong skills in reading and writing; they are able to write complete, meaningful, and novel thoughts without plagiarism.						

Most Recent FAST Scores(If applicable):

Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ Math: \_\_\_\_\_

Further Comments:

Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_