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## PARENT & PARTICIPANT MEETING

### PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

We look forward to meeting you and spending the weekend with your child. We appreciate what you have done to make this possible. It is our hope that this experience will not only impact your child's life, but it will be one that he or she will share *with* you. We also hope that this is not the only time we get to connect with you; our program is something your child can be involved in throughout the year with wilderness trips and public service opportunities.

This trip is about HAVING FUN, learning to make good choices under pressure, and learning the value of mentorship and peer accountability, all as your child experiences the foundations of leadership. The goal, first and last, is to have fun together. If the weather is unbearable, it will NOT be fun- we will reschedule, but because this is variable Oklahoma weather, the decision to cancel will be made as late as possible. We have been caught in snowstorms, thunderstorms, and flash floods- none of which were predicted before the trips. We have the equipment, sound judgment, and experience needed to make the best decisions for your child and ourselves.

Please take the time to look at our FAQs handout. By no means will this answer *all* your questions, but it will definitely help. You can also find our forms on our website as well as our Gear List. **Please review the Gear List and make sure that your child has all the items needed for this trip** (note: different trips have different gear needs). **Before your child is allowed to participate in a LongWalk trip, we must have ALL Completed Forms and the Trip Fee.** Should any issues arise with your child, whether behavioral or otherwise, the sponsoring organization will have final say in any disciplinary repercussions; if your child is participating in a trip that is not facilitated through a sponsoring organization, LongWalk staff will use sound judgment as to the consequences of your child's choices, we will then contact you.

We understand that your child is your priority. We see it the same way. We value your input and experience as a parent. Before the trip leaves, we invite you to share with us your expectations and goals for your child. And because we believe that what we are doing will have a lasting impact on your child, we encourage you to share with us after the trip. That is one of the many great rewards about being a parent: you get to see the daily impact of your child's positive choices... long after a LongWalk trip!

Please feel free to ask any questions that you may have at the Parents' Meeting, or privately if you feel that it would be more appropriate. We look forward to getting to know your child and working with you!

Thank you!

The LongWalk Staff