October 17 and 18, 2013

Dear Parents / Guardians,

This semester in science classes, 8th grade magnet students are involved in a unit on fresh water. We are discussing such topics as the hydrological cycle, groundwater, aquifers, pollution and conservation efforts, and the Barton Creek / Colorado River Water Sheds. To supplement this unit we have planned a trip to the Barton Creek area and a walk to the Boggy Creek area (near Kealing). We have scheduled the activities for Monday, November 25, 2013 (A Day) and Tuesday, November 26, 2013 (B Day). **This trip is directly tied to core science classes and students are expected to attend. Students who do not show up will be accountable for the missed information in their science classes and will be counted absent.**

If the student has science class on A Day, on that Monday (s)he will hike approximately 3 miles at Barton Creek, make qualitative observations about point source and nonpoint source pollution, and have lunch at Zilker Park.

If the student has science class on B Day, on that Monday (s)he will stay at Kealing for a presentation about water quality, followed by a walk to Boggy Creek to collect water samples and conduct tests. We will have lunch at this park. Students will then switch to the other set of activities the next day (Tuesday).

Since the trips are scheduled during two school days, students will be required to make up all missed work (e.g., from an elective). Students will need to bring a sack lunch for each day, and they should dress appropriately to hike. They must also be aware that they may encounter water crossings on the way. **Help from parent chaperones will be necessary to make these trips a success.**

Please sign and return the permission slip attached to the bottom of this note to your student’s science teacher by Friday, November 16, 2013, along with **$5 to cover bus costs**. This activity is considered mandatory for all magnet 8th graders. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Tania Tasneem at 841-1145, Joel Barton at 841-1146, or Joe Slapak at 841-1147.

Thanks for Your Help and Support,

Tania Tasneem

Joel Barton

Joe Slapak

All KMS 8th Grade Magnet Teachers

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I give my student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ permission to attend the Barton Creek Green Belt Hike, the water quality documentary, and the Boggy Creek Walk with his/her science class on Monday, 11/25/13 and Tuesday, 11/26/13, from 9:00am to 1:00pm. I understand that my student will need a sack lunch and need to dress appropriately for the trips. My student has the responsibility to make up any missed work.

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Parent Signature Date

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Home Phone Number Work Phone Number

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Parent E-mail contact

­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes, I’d like to help chaperone on Monday, 11/25 (Greenbelt)**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I’d like to help chaperone on Tuesday 11/26 (Greenbelt)**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I’d like to help chaperone on Monday, 11/25 (Boggy Creek)**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I’d like to help chaperone on Tuesday, 11/26 (Boggy Creek)**

 **Please e-mail** **joel.barton@austinisd.org** **to let him know! (He is the parent contact.)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_ My student requests sack lunches from the cafeteria, and my student’s ID is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_