

September 10, 2008

Dear Parents,

In Earth science, the students will study minerals and rocks for several chapters starting on September 11th. In order for students to fully grasp the concept and for a fun hands-on activity, the entire seventh grade class has the opportunity to visit Emerald Hollow Mine in Hiddenite, North Carolina. This is NOT a mandatory trip, but rather a fun activity that coincides with our lesson plan. There will be no extra assignments for students that do not attend.

The students will leave Trinity Collegiate School on **Saturday October 4, 2008** at **8:00 AM** on a school bus. The trip will take approximately three to four hours. Upon arrival in Hiddenite, the students will disembark and eat lunch. For approximately the next two hours, the students will participate in the Emerald Hollow Mine Educational Program. Some of the highlights of the program include learning about the formation of gemstones, panning for gold ore and gemstones in Emerald Creek and sluicing for gemstone taken from a local mine. Students are not expected to return from the trip until **6:00 PM** at night. The cost of the trip is estimated to be **\$20.00** (including admission and transportation). The cost will be billed directly from the students' accounts. Parents are welcome to attend, but will have to pay admission fees to the mine. Students should bring the following on their trip:

- a packed lunch
- an extra pair of pants/clothes and shoes
- a large margarine container with your child's name on it (for collecting gemstones)
- sunscreen
- a towel to dry off with after the creek section of the program
- bug spray
- appropriate clothes for the weather

To find out more information about the Emerald Hollow Mine and its educational program, please visit this website: <http://www.hiddenitegems.com/fieldtrips.html>. If you have any additional questions regarding the trip, you may also email or call me. Please complete the attached sheet and have your child return it to me by **Friday September 26, 2008**. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Katherine Puskarz
katluydogs@gmail.com
860.368.9153

By signing this sheet, I am verifying that I have read the above letter.

Parent(s) signature

Date

Please check the appropriate box(es).

My child **WILL** be attending the field trip planned for Saturday October 4, 2008.

My child will be riding the bus to Hiddenite, NC and the Emerald Hollow Mine.

My child will be riding with his/her parent and will **NOT** be taking the bus.

My child will **NOT** be taking this field trip at all.

Your child's name