

Letter Home to Parents

Use this letter **BEFORE** teaching.

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Our _____ class will be addressing the issues of organ and tissue donation in the upcoming weeks. The purpose of these lessons will be to provide the students with the basic information needed to make this decision and also to continue discussing the topic at home with their parents or guardians.

There are many issues, concerns and feelings about the topic of organ and tissue donation. It is not meant to be a finished lesson once the student leaves the classroom. Please be aware that your child might be sensitive or preoccupied during and after the in-school discussion. While we feel it is natural, especially for teens, to have questions and concerns about this topic, it can also turn out to be either a time of increased sharing and discussion or a missed opportunity to learn more about one another. Even though it may be uncomfortable for you, a family discussion about organ and tissue donation today could help to make it easier, if necessary, in the future. Many families only realize too late that they are unaware of how their loved one felt about donation.

Over the next several weeks, the time will be rich for you and your family to talk about this sensitive subject together—free of high emotions, critical time factors and loss.

After you have your family discussion, each person who wants to be a donor should designate his or her specific wishes on his or her driver's license. Even if your driver's license or state ID is not due for renewal, you can designate as a donor online. Simply go to lifeshareregistry.org. You can also contact LifeShare for further information or education.

Lastly, if you would like to hear more about the upcoming lessons, please contact me via the school.

Thank you,