**Letter to Parents**

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Thank you for your interest in the SOAR Conference. SOAR (Suddenly Opportunities Are Reachable) is a leadership conference for students in grades 7 and 8 enrolled in the Peel District School Board. At SOAR, our primary objective is to bridge the gap between middle school and high school students within Peel. This will be accomplished by instilling leadership qualities in the delegates throughout the duration of the conference via various discussions, songs, games and hands-on activities.

Delegates will be encouraged to take advantage of opportunities in their communities, participate actively in their schools, and to take strides in order to develop their prowess as leaders. As a result of the experiences and skills inculcated at SOAR, students develop into more open-minded individuals, who are motivated to make positive changes in the world. The conference also works to allow the delegates to make friends and network with students from all over Peel Region, increasing the feeling of unity within the school board.

Along with the middle school students, we will have volunteers from various high schools attending. These selected volunteers are a pool of highly accomplished high school students who strive to encourage leadership within all students. This event will he held with the help of teacher sponsor, Michelle Clayton, a teacher at Turner Fenton Secondary School. The SOAR conference depends on its teacher support to run a safe and secure conference for all attendees. There will be a number of Peel teachers at the conference, supervising students at a 1:20 teacher-to-student ratio at all times.

SOAR is looking for the next generation of youth leaders to attend our riveting conference! We hope that you and your child will join us in the experience of a lifetime.

Sincerely,

Your Chairs

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Wasif Butt | Dhvani Doshi | Hina Rani |
| 613-202-2439 | 647-627-0073 | 416-839-0058 |

**Important Details**

## **Where:**

SOAR 2018 will be held at Turner Fenton Secondary School (7935 Kennedy Rd, Brampton, ON, L6W 0A2)

## **When:**

The conference will take place on **Saturday, May 26th, 2018 from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.**

## **Contact Us:**

If you have any further questions feel free to email us at [soar.chairs@gmail.com](mailto:soar.chairs@gmail.com) or call the phone numbers listed above to reach one of the chairpersons’ of SOAR conference.

## **Application Deadline:**

All applications are due to the North office of Turner Fenton Secondary School by **Friday, April 13, 2017. OR** you can fill out the form, scan it, and submit digitally to [soar.chairs@gmail.com](mailto:soar.chairs@gmail.com).This includes filling out a Google Form to provide us with the delegate’s contact information, which can be found here: bit.do/soarapp

## **Conference Fee:**

The conference fee of $35.00 includes 3 meals, delegate bags, a t-shirt for the day of conference, snacks, and a guest speaker *(the conference is entirely non-profit)*.

## **Payment of Fee:**

The $35.00 fee must be paid on School Cash Online (bit.do/soarfee) otherwise the application will not be considered.

**Schedule of Events for Conference:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Registration/Cheer Circle | 7:15 am |
| **Session 1: Ice Breakers** | 7:45 am |
| Breakfast | 8:15 am |
| Guest Speaker | 9:00 am |
| **Session 2: Group Dynamics** | 10:00 am |
| The Big Game | 11:00 am |
| Lunch | 12:00 pm |
| **Session 3: Trust and Risk** | 1:00 pm |
| Opportunity Fair | 2:00 pm |
| **Session 4: Conflict Resolution** | 2:30 pm |
| Dinner | 4:00 pm |
| **Session 5: Tissues and Bridging the Gap** | 5:00 pm |
| Warm Fuzzies | 6:00 pm |
| Dance! | 6:30 pm |
| Closing Ceremonies | 7:30 pm |
| Thank You For Coming, Goodbye! | 8:00 pm |

**Declarations**

**Parent Declaration**

I give permission to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; my son/daughter to be part of the SOAR Conference as a delegate and permission to attend SOAR Conference on May 26th, 2018. I understand that failure to meet the rules and expectations may result in his/her termination from attending the conference.

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

**Risks and Liability Waiver**

The SOAR Conference is an opportunity for middle school students to take part in an innovative experience in which they will have the ability to develop their leadership skills. During this conference, high school student leaders and teachers will oversee the activities. Conference activities are reviewed for risk management and planned in a manner that provides participants with enjoyable, educational activities with minimal risk.

While the SOAR executive and volunteer teams take reasonable precautions to ensure safety, SOAR is not responsible for any injuries or damages throughout the conference. By signing below, you agree that the SOAR executive team and all the individual staff/volunteer members will not to be held responsible for any injuries. By signing this document, you also agree to the disciplinary action taken by SOAR executive members if the delegate violates one of the zero tolerance policies, including but not limited to possession of drugs, alcohol or weapons, theft and engaging in violent behavior. Disciplinary action for zero tolerance policies entails the delegate being sent home immediately and at their own expense. I understand the conditions outlined above under which the SOAR Conference is offered and agree that these conditions are acceptable to me/my charge.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

## **Image Release Form**

I hereby give SOAR Conference, its assigns, licensees and legal representatives the irrevocable right to use my child’s photographs/images/audio recordings/video recording/ and likeness in all forms and manner including but not limited to publication on Internet Web Sites, broadcasts and any other publications as released to or by SOAR Conference. I further consent to the reproduction and/or authorization by SOAR of said photographs and recordings for use in all domestic and foreign markets as well as advertisements. I have carefully reviewed and understand the above provisions and agree to be bound by them. I voluntarily and irrevocably give my consent and agree to this Release and Waiver.

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date