

Dear Interested Parents and Community Members:

This letter has been distributed to you as part of our efforts to locate adults within our community who might be willing to share their professional expertise, talents and experiences with the students in our schools.

The School-Wide Enrichment Model offered to MISD students in grades K-5 is designed to academically enrich our students based on the individual interests of each student. The abilities of many of our students are often so unique that it becomes necessary to look beyond the boundaries of the traditional classroom in order to locate appropriate resources and role models with varied talents, experiences and professions.

It is our belief that advanced-level interests can best be encouraged by bringing children in touch with adult professionals who share their interests and ambitions. In this way, children will have an opportunity for intense exploration of individual interests and a wide exposure to adults of varying talents, professions and experiences. We firmly believe children who are provided with adult role models of various professions and experiences will gain an appreciation for task commitment, creativity and problem solving. Children who have this experience will be more likely to eventually develop positive attitudes toward independent learning, self-motivation and in-depth investigation.

The community involvement we seek differs a great deal from traditional volunteer programs. We are not searching for chaperones, cookie bakers or teachers' aides. Instead, we are asking you to share your professional expertise, your experiences, talents and hobbies. Depending on student needs, this sharing and exploration might involve service as a classroom speaker or as a mentor for students involved in a long-term project.

The survey that follows is our attempt to locate those community members who are willing to share their talents with our students. It will provide us with helpful information regarding your areas of expertise and interest in volunteering your services. If the School-Wide Enrichment Model intrigues you, please complete the survey and return it to your school coordinator listed at the end of the survey. We will contact you regarding future involvement in the program as soon as we match your interest and expertise with the interest of our students.

Please accept, in advance, our gratitude for your cooperation and interest in our School-Wide Enrichment Model.