

December 2, 2013

Dear 7th grade AMS Students and Families,

By now, each 7th grade student has either recently submitted or is nearly finished with World Awareness paper on global issues. Learning about the issues affecting people around the world has been an eye opening experience for both teachers and students.

Our culminating event, an Oxfam Hunger Banquet, has been planned for Tuesday, December 17th, 2013, and will involve all of the students in the seventh grade at AMS. (The snow date is Wednesday, December 18th.) A Hunger Banquet is a hands-on way for both students and teachers to experience how food is inequitably distributed around the world.

On the day of the Oxfam Hunger Banquet, the students will wear the t-shirts they created to represent the particular organization or issue each child researched. Homeroom classes will then come to the gymnasium. Here each student will randomly select a ticket which will designate whether he or she will be eating with the low, medium, or high income group. Students will then be ushered to sit with their assigned income group during the banquet.

Seventh grade students will MC the Hunger Banquet. Prior to the serving of the meal, poetry written on topics such as hunger and poverty will be read by the students. The final event will be the serving of the meal. Low income meals will consist of rice served on lettuce leaves. Middle income meals will consist of rice and beans served on a tortilla. Those fortunate few who receive a ticket to represent people living in high income communities will receive a pasta meal with salad and bread.

The Oxfam Hunger Banquet can be a powerful event with the support of parents, students, and teachers. We are asking students to bring in a \$3.00 donation which will go directly to Oxfam America to help address the needs of those who are less fortunate. On the day of the banquet, we encourage students to eat a good breakfast and suggest that students attending after school activities bring along a snack to eat at the end of the school day. Susan Saraff, our school nurse, will make any necessary arrangements for students with medical or dietary issues.

We look forward to having your student join in our World Awareness/ Oxfam Hunger Banquet. Please sign the form below indicating that your child has your permission to join us.

"United for a More Equitable World" (OXFAM 2013),

The 7th Grade Amherst Middle School Staff

----- (Detach and Return) -----

Student Name: _____ has our permission to attend the Oxfam Hunger Banquet on Tuesday, December 17th, 2013, at the Amherst Middle School. (Your \$3.00 donation can be sent in with this permission slip; any and all donation amounts are welcome.)

(Parent signature)

