



**June 24, 2015**

Dear Parent,

I hope you and your family are having a good summer. I am writing to give you more information for the upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation/Retreat. Students will spend 1 ½ days (**Fri. Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> – Sat. Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup>**) at a comfortable residential camp at the Pilgrim Pines Camp and Conference Camp in Yucaipa. This link will give you more information on the location and accommodations:

<http://www.pilgrimpinescamp.org/index.html>

The program's overall goal is to foster the creation of new relationships, giving students the opportunity to get to know each other, and also have time to reflect on their lives, relationships, and faith in God in a peaceful and thoughtful setting.

We hope to help students develop self-reliance and confidence during outdoor activities, which will include low ropes team challenge initiatives as well as a high ropes course led by professionals in the field of experiential learning. The organization we are partnering with for this part of the retreat is **Empowering Ventures Inc.** ([www.empoweringventuresinc.com](http://www.empoweringventuresinc.com)) **Please feel free to check out their website to get an idea of the nature of the activities.** They specialize in programs that focus on teambuilding and leadership development. Connelly's Campus Ministry team will facilitate the spiritual component of the retreat.

Distribution of Student/Parent Handbooks and an overview of school activities, traditions and, policies and procedures will be facilitated by the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Advisors and four senior class ASB officers who will be present at the retreat. 9<sup>th</sup> Grade advisors, and our Director of Campus Ministry will serve as chaperones for the entire orientation and retreat.

We are looking forward to having your daughter at this Orientation/Retreat. It is the first step in our efforts to help her make a smooth transition to high school and it is mandatory for her to attend. I thank you very much for your support and appreciate you taking the time to complete all the required forms. Please call the school office at 714-776-1717 if you have any questions. Below is a list of attached forms that you may print and complete. Please turn in the completed forms to the school office by Mon. Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shanti Ernest

**Director of Student Life**

**Forms to be completed for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation/Retreat:**  
(Please turn in completed forms to the school office by Mon. Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>.)

- Parent Permission
- Behavioral policies and procedures
- Empowering Ventures Inc. Participant Agreement Form
- Health History Form (posted as a separate document)



**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation/Retreat**  
**Fri. August 21<sup>st</sup> – Sat. August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**  
**Information and Packing List**

**Date and Time:** Be at Connelly on Fri. Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:45 am

**Return:** Sat. Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 (1:00 pm) (*Family Day picnic at Connelly begins at 1 pm*)

**Transportation:** Bus - departing from and returning to Connelly High School.

**Packing List**

**Bedding:**

- Warm sleeping bag, pillow, blanket

**Clothing**

- Comfortable Outdoor and Indoor Clothes for Warm and Cold Weather
- *Jeans (not tight fitting) without holes or rips, Capris, or Long Shorts (must be knee length for high ropes activities) – (NO SHORT SHORTS)*
- *Please note that clothes should not be tight fitting as you will be involved in outdoor physical activities.*
- Jacket /sweatshirt and Hat
- Long sleeved and short sleeved shirt/t-Shirts
- Pajamas
- Socks

**Shoes**

- Closed Toed Shoes, preferably athletic shoes. You will be doing outdoor activities
- Flip flops for shower (optional)

**Hygiene**

- Toiletry Kit (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste etc.)
- Towel
- Chapstick

**Other**

- Cap
- Sunscreen
- Water bottle with your name on it
- Flashlight
- Insect repellent
- Medication if needed

**DO NOT** bring any expensive items like jewelry, iPods, iPads, video games, etc.

Medications must be given to the Registrar at the main office upon arrival at school for the retreat. One of the adult chaperones will be put in charge of all medication once the retreat begins.



**PARENT PERMISSION FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned parent/guardian  
**PARENT NAME (Please Print)**

of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
**STUDENT NAME (Please Print) GRADE**

do hereby give my daughter permission to participate in the 9<sup>th</sup> Grader Orientation/Retreat @ *the Pilgrim Pines Camp and Conference Center in Yucaipa, CA from 6:45 am, Fri. Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> – 1 pm Sat. August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015*. I agree to direct my daughter to cooperate and conform to the directions and instructions of the supervisory personnel in charge of the event. Should it be necessary for my daughter to have medical treatment during the activity, I hereby give permission to the school personnel to use their judgment in obtaining medical services and give permission to the physician selected by the school to render medical treatment deemed necessary and appropriate for my daughter. I agree that in the event my daughter is injured as a result of her participating in the event, including transportation to and from the venue of the event, recourse for the payment of any resulting hospital, dental, medical or related costs and expenses will first be had against any accident, hospital, medical or any available benefit of mine or of my spouse. I hereby release and save harmless Cornelia Connelly School, their employees and chaperones from any liability.

My signature confirms that I have read and understood the information on this form and other forms provided by the coordinator of the event.

**Mode of transportation: Bus (Students must be at school by 6:45 am)**

Shanti Ernest 6/26/15  
**Dean of Students Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent Signature Date**



9<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat/Orientation August 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

**Behavioral policies and procedures:**

*The following policies and procedures are designed so that everyone can enjoy the retreat in positive and constructive ways. Please remember that you represent Cornelia Connelly School and you are held to a high standard of behavior. These policies are in place to also keep you safe and promote good conduct while participating in activities. All adult chaperones are responsible for your safety, well-being, and conduct. You are expected to respect and cooperate with chaperones and abide by all the policies. All school policies outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook are also in effect. (An on-line version of the Parent/Student Handbook is currently available on the Connelly School website.) Violation of any retreat or school policy will result in disciplinary action.*

1. Show respect by cooperating with faculty and adult chaperones at all times.
2. Respect your peers on the retreat, both inside and outside of planned events.
3. Respect the time schedules and adhere to all established curfews set by the coordinator of the retreat.
4. Attend all mandatory activities and meal functions.
5. Keep your assigned chaperone advised of your whereabouts at all times.
6. Comply, throughout the retreat, with any and all instructions directed to you and/or the group by a chaperone or retreat director.
8. Strictly follow the instructions of your chaperones for free time guidelines.
9. Do not consume or be in the possession of alcohol/drugs or any other illegal substance at any time.
10. Know that all school policies as outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook are in place for the entire duration of the retreat.
11. Adhere to the established dress code at all times.
12. Sleep in your assigned cabin and not allow members of the opposite sex in your cabin at any time.
13. Be in your assigned cabin at the correct time every night when your chaperones do room checks.
14. Keep your assigned cabin clean.

15. Exhibit controlled behavior and keep noise to a minimum in the cabin and throughout the retreat.
16. Make sure you have your belongings with you at all times and not assume that someone else has taken care of your things.
17. Respect everyone's property and belongings.
18. Refrain from speaking inappropriate language and do not engage in any activity that is disruptive, interferes with the educational aspect of the retreat, or is not in keeping with the mission and philosophy of Cornelia Connelly School.

**Please sign and return this form along with all other retreat forms.**

*I have read, and understand the above policies and procedures and agree to abide by them.*

**Student Name (Please print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

*I have read and understand the above policies and procedures and I will direct my daughter to abide them.*

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_



**Empowering Ventures Inc.**  
**PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT**

In consideration of the services to be provided by Empower Ventures Inc., its officers, agents, employees, stockholders, and all other persons or entities associated with those Empowering Ventures Inc. (hereinafter collectively referred to as "EVI") I agree as follows:

EVI programs involve a variety of activities that often include warm-up, games, group initiative problems, and low and high ropes course elements. Although EVI has taken reasonable steps to provide me with appropriate equipment and skilled facilitators so I can enjoy activities for which I may not be skilled, EVI has informed that these activities can be causes of loss or damage to my equipment, or accidental injury, illness, or in extreme cases, permanent trauma or death. EVI does not want to frighten me or reduce my enthusiasm for the activity, but believes it is important for me to know in advance what to expect and to be informed of the inherent risks.

I am aware that participation in activities entails risk of injury or death to any participant. I understand the description of these inherent risks is not complete and that other unknown or unanticipated inherent risks may result in injury or death. I agree to assume and accept full responsibility for the inherent risks identified herein and those inherent risks not specifically identified. My participation in these activities is purely voluntary, no one is forcing me to participate, and I elect to participate in spite of and with full knowledge of the inherent risks.

I acknowledge that engaging in these activities may require a degree of skill and knowledge different than other activities and that I have responsibilities as a participant. I acknowledge that EVI staff has been and will be available to more fully explain to me the nature and physical demands of each activity and the inherent risks, hazards and dangers associated with these activities.

I certify that I am fully capable of participating in these activities. Therefore, I assume and accept full responsibility for myself, including all minor children in my care, custody and control, for bodily injury, death or loss of personal property and expenses as a result of the inherent risks and dangers identified herein and those inherent risks and dangers not specifically identified, and as a result of my negligence in participating in this activity.

I have carefully read, clearly understood and accept the terms and conditions stated herein and acknowledge that this agreement shall be effective and binding upon myself, my heirs, assigns personal representative and estate and for all members of my family, including minor children.

---

Participant's Signature

---

Date

---

Parent/Guardians' Signature (if participant is under 18)

---

Date