

May 29, 2008

Dear New Carnegie Vanguard Student (Class of 2012),

Since you have been accepted as a Carnegie Vanguard Freshman student for the 2008-09 school year, we invite you to attend annual Fish Camp (Vanguard Orientation) beginning Thursday, August 21st through Saturday August 23rd, 2008. The camp is at YMCA Camp Cullen and is located on the shores of Lake Livingston just outside of Trinity, Texas about 100 miles north of Houston. We board the buss at 2:30 PM on Thursday August 21st and return around 4:00 PM on Saturday.

This camp has been very successful in previous years. We are looking forward to you joining us for this, your initial vanguard experience, at a minor cost to you and your family. During the two and a half days at camp, you will:

- Meet other Freshmen with whom you will share the next for years
- Meet Senior (09) and Juniors (10) who will serve as counselors
- Participate in daytime activities that encourage sharing and trust
- Enjoy a late night under the stars
- Learn to swing dance
- Play basketball and four square, and swim
- Eat the best camp food in East Texas

You will need to bring the following items: a flashlight with fresh batteries, comfortable closed-toe shoes such as tennis shoes or hiking boots (sandals of any type are not permitted), sleeping bag and/or sheets, a pillow, towels, insect repellent, toiletries (shampoo, soap, toothbrush, contact supplies, etc.) and enough tee shirts, underwear, shorts, jeans to last through two hot, sweaty days. It is hot!

Do not bring cigarettes, drugs, knives, guns, lighters, valuables; make up, jewelry, food, pets of any kind, pagers, stereos, iPods, cell phones, etc. If you are uncertain about an item, you should probably leave the item at home.

To accept this invitation, it is absolutely essential that you sign and return the attached medical release/information/parent information form to this office by **Tuesday, August 12, 2008** along with cash, check or Postal Money Order for #100.00 made out to **Carnegie Vanguard High School PTO**. We must le the camp know how many of you will be able to come. If you would like to be a chaperone the cost is \$65.00 and you must be registered as a VIP before you can participate. This process normally takes two weeks; you can register online at www.houstonisd.org, and we must have a copy of your driver's license in order to complete the process.

The Carnegie Vanguard PTO has a limited amount of money available to those for whom \$100.00 may be difficult at this time. (The actual cost is \$125.00, but the PTO has graciously volunteered to pay \$25.00 for every student.) If you will please advise me of your need as soon as possible, we can offer a few scholarships. Please do not forego the experience because of money.

If you need any more information, please feel free to call me at 713-732-3690. We look forward to working with you this summer and throughout your high school career.

Sincerely,
Melany Shannon
Magnet/Vanguard coordinator
mshannon@houstonisd.org