

September 18th, 2008.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This year Markville S.S. has embarked on a new endeavour called the Markville Boys Club. This new initiative has come about as a result of current education research and data collected within our own school where we have found that a significant number of boys are not achieving to their potential. A number of researchers have suggested differences in motivation between boys and girls, and misunderstanding of these differences by educators, as possible reasons for the gap in performance between male and female students.

All grade 9 boys have been organized into teams. Each month, boys will participate in activities that are meant to keep them motivated and engaged about school. Each team is led by a senior mentor who will serve as a role model and personal contact for each member of their team. The club is organized by 12 members of our staff and two officers from the York Regional Police.

This month, all grade 9 boys have the opportunity to participate in an **overnight camp**. This overnight experience will be held at Camp Robin Hood from **Saturday September 27th at 10:00 a.m. until Sunday September 28th at 11:00 a.m.** At camp boys will be participating in a variety of team competitions and outdoor activities. They will be sleeping in tents and will be provided with **lunch** and **dinner** on September 27th and **breakfast** on September 28th. The cost of this camp for each camper is **\$20.00** and has been heavily subsidized by a provincial government grant and through donations from local merchants.

We are requesting that **parents/guardians drive their sons to camp** which is located just north-east of Markville SS on Reesor Road (map is attached). Please notify the school if you are unable to drive your son to camp. We ask that **permission forms and money** (cash or cheque made out to Markville SS) be returned to Markville SS by **Thursday September 25th to the student store in the atrium**. Mentors and/or teachers will be there each day to collect permission forms and money in the morning and during the grade 9 lunch period. Attached you will find a **packing list, map, permission form and return envelope**.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Andrew Bos or Debbie Linkewich at 905-940-8840.

Sincerely,
The Markville Boys Club