BUSLOAD OF BOOKS

STUDENT SURVEY OPT-OUT PERMISSION FORM

Research Conducted by the Departments of Education and Sociology
Washington College | Chestertown, Maryland

Project Title: Exploring the Impact of the Busload of Books

Drs. Sara Clarke-De Reza, Bridget Bunten, and Nick Garcia, and Professors Michelle Johnson, & Erin Counihan

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this study is to better understand the impact of an author/illustrator visit and book giveaway on elementary school students. Specifically, we're curious about how meeting an author and illustrator, and receiving a free book, might change the way your student thinks or feels about reading, writing, and creativity.

PROCEDURE:

If you agree to allow your child to participate in the survey study, they will be asked to do the following:

> Complete three anonymous, 1-page surveys on literacy attitudes and beliefs—1) prior to the assembly, 2) right after the assembly, and 3) one month later. The total time required to complete each survey will be less than 5 minutes.

Your child will have the option to not participate in the survey. If they choose not to participate, they will receive an alternative non-research task to complete.

RISKS/BENEFITS TO PARTICIPATION:

The risks of participation in this study are very low. Your child may become bored with completing the survey items. The benefits of participation for your student might include gaining an opportunity to reflect on their experiences with literacy.

VOLUNTARY NATURE OF THE STUDY:

As noted above, your student's participation in this study is completely voluntary. They will still be able to participate in assembly and author events even if they do not participate in the associated research. They can opt out or stop participating in the research at any time or skip any questions they do not want to answer. Their name will not be connected with the results or responses to the questionnaires. Information that would make it possible to identify you, your student, or any other participant will never be included in any sort of report. The data will be accessible only to those working on the project.

CONTACTS AND QUESTIONS:

Before signing this form, you may ask any questions you have regarding this study to either your child's teacher, the school administration, or the project researchers. The project lead, Dr. Clarke-De Reza, can be reached via email at **research@busloadofbooks.com** or **sclarkedereza2@washcoll.edu**.

If you wish to <u>allow</u> your child to participate, please do not return this form. No action is necessary.

If you <u>do not allow</u> your child to participate in this study, please do one of the following before the assembly date:

- **Sign and return this form** to your child's teacher or to the school principal; ***or***
- **Email your child's teacher or the school principal** with the subject "Opt Out" and your name and your child's name in the message.

Name of Student (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____ **Date:** _____