**Web 2.0 Tools Parent Guardian Consent Form**

Dear 7th grade Parent,

 As you may be aware, as part of the curriculum the 7th graders are currently working on a 20% project. The 20% Time Project is based on Google’s famed initiative to allow their employees to use 20% of their work time to pursue their own projects of interest. Throughout this year, our writing curriculum has been focused on the following essential questions:

• What is life? What are the different aspects with which we can define life?

• What does it mean to lead a meaningful life?

• How can we measure the worth of a life?

• What is your life going to mean? How are you going to define it?

• How are you going to redefine/define the importance of your generation?

• What does it mean to have a passion?

• How can we pursue a life of passion?

The philosophy underlying the Google 20% initiative strongly correlate to these essential questions and can also promote student achievement of the Common Core writing standards (for further information please refer to my teacher website for detailed assignment instructions and guidelines regarding the 20% project: <http://tharayil13-14.weebly.com/ongoing-assignments2.html>).

For their 20% project in class, students are responsible for initiating and undertaking their own 20% project in which students are pursuing a goal based on their own passions and interests. The projects are primarily self-directed by students and students decide how they would like their projects to unfold. The 20% projects of the class range greatly: while some students are writing books, others are developing business proposals, learning how to play an instrument, while still others aim to develop their own video blogs or create a series of how-to videos on a certain topic of interest. While student projects are self-directed, I am also aware of their progress and students are required to journal about their progress every week.

Due to the varied and creative nature of their projects, some student projects may require students to have access as well as interact with free Web 2.0 tools such as Google Apps, and also publish their work online by uploading audio and video content, which would likely feature themselves, on sites like Youtube (also a Google App). Although students have begun working on their 20% projects, they have been instructed that they may not post any of their content on any social media sites including Youtube, until they obtain their parent/guardian consent. Students have also been instructed that upon obtaining parent permission first, any future content published online by them as it pertains to this project **must** be in line with the mission, philosophy and Schoolwide Learning Expectations (SLEs) of St. John Eudes School and also follows the school’s technology policy.

Therefore, in an effort to promote students’ creativity and fulfillment of their project goals while still maintaining their safety, including their online safety, as the top-most priority, the purpose of this letter is to inform you and obtain your permission and consent—only if you so choose— to allow your child to post their content on Youtube or other like web forums. If you decide to grant your child permission to publish content on publicly accessible forums like Youtube and similar web applications, I also ask that and strongly encourage you monitor your child’s publishing activity.

 Please indicate your position regarding your consent to your child participating in the use of Web 2.0 tools by responding to the statements below.

If you have any further questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me at stharayil@school.stjohneudes.org. Thank you for your cooperation and support in your child’s endeavors in this project!

Sincerely,

Ms. Sneha Tharayil

***To fully protect your child, I ask that you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:***

*I agree to allow my student to create a free Gmail account. Yes No*

*I agree to allow my student to be audio/digitally recorded for their project. Yes No*

*I agree to allow my student video/digitally recorded for their project. Yes No*

*I agree to allow my student to access programs such as Blogs, YouTube,*

*Weebly for academic purposes as well as* ***upload content***

***that may feature them on these sites.*** *Yes No*

**FOR THE STUDENT** – *My signature below indicates that all my questions have been answered.  I agree to participate in the 20% project as described above and to* ***abide by St. John Eudes School’s mission, philosophy, schoolwide learning expectations (SLEs), and technology policy****.*

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Signature of Student Date Signed

**FOR THE PARENT/GUARDIAN** – *My signature below indicates that all my questions have been answered.  I agree to allow my student to utilize Web 2.0 tools for their 20% project as described above, and also agree to* ***monitor my child’s use of Web 2.0 tools for this project so that it is in accordance with St. John Eudes School’s mission, philosophy, schoolwide learning expectations (SLEs) and technology policy****.*

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Signature of Parent/Guardian Date Signed