November 18, 2013

Dear Parents or Guardians and Students,

 I am sending home this letter to ask you to participate in learning about you or your students’ learning style. I have attached two options of learning inventories or learning surveys for your student to complete. He/She must only complete ONE survey, record the results on the handout that is attached, and return the completed survey and results to class no later than Friday, November 22, 2013.

**What is a learning inventory?**

 A learning inventory or learning survey is a short test that asks questions about a student’s preferences, tendencies, and strengths in learning both inside and outside the classroom. The results to the survey demonstrate how each student most often learns or learns best. Along with the strengths, each survey also shows areas where a student should improve their learning. It is important to remember that a learning inventory only shows a “snap shot” of a student’s learning. The results may change with life experiences or practice and hard work on his/her weaker areas.

**What do the results mean?**

 After the survey is submitted, students will be able to review their results of the learning inventory. Many theorists have created their own categories of learning styles. In the first survey I attached, the results are split into three categories of auditory, visual, and kinesthetic learning styles. On the same link, the three categories are explained in more detail. <http://www.ldpride.net/learningstyles.MI.htm#types%20of%20learning%20styles>

 The second survey is based on Howard Gardner’s Theory of multiple intelligences. This is similar to learning styles, but emphasizes the strengths and weaknesses of each student. The categories are explained in a tab *What are Multiple Intelligences?* or can be found at this link.

<http://www.bgfl.org/bgfl/custom/resources_ftp/client_ftp/ks3/ict/multiple_int/what.cfm>

**Why is a learning inventory important?**

 It is important to complete learning surveys for both school and home. In the classroom, I will be using the results from each student’s survey as I create lesson plans. It is important for me to know how the students learn best and what type of lessons will be most suitable for them. Also, by knowing the students’ learning styles I can give them choices in assignments and vary my instructions so that each student’s needs in the classroom are met. Overall, knowing the learning styles of the students in my classroom will help me guide them to their full potential.

 The knowledge of learning preferences and strengths will help you as a parent or guardian to foster the child’s learning at home too. By seeing the results with your child you will be able to understand how they will often respond to your techniques of discipline or teaching at home. It is also an important role of parents and guardians to recognize the weaker areas in their child’s learning and to create new experiences, which will help the student grow in those areas. You can also help keep your child accountable by checking that their studying habits at home are the most beneficial.

 As a student, it is important for you to understand your strengths and weaknesses as you listen and participate in class so that you are doing your best. Knowing how you learn will also help you study at home and choose the type of assignments that you are successful at and enjoy doing. It may help if you know how your classmates learn too so you can study with them or ask them for strategies they use to do their best in the classroom.

**How do I take the survey?**

 You can access either learning survey by going online to one of following links:

1. <http://www.ldpride.net/learningstyles.MI.htm#types%20of%20learning%20styles>

2. <http://www.bgfl.org/bgfl/custom/resources_ftp/client_ftp/ks3/ict/multiple_int/>

 If you do not have Internet or computer access, please contact me and I can send the survey home in a handout and then calculate the results when the survey is completed. I encourage you to complete both surveys for more accurate results, but the students are only receiving credit for completing one and handing in the results.

 Thank you so much for your cooperation and help. Please let me know if you need more information or have any questions.

 Best Wishes,

 Ms. Zebroski

 218-232-4654; cezebroski1@umary.edu

**Record Survey Results for Survey #1**

I am a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ learner.

1. This means I like to learn by:

2. Knowing this about how I learn, I should try to improve in these areas:

**Record Results for Survey # 2:**

Answer in Percentages:

I’m \_\_\_\_ Kinesthetic.

I’m \_\_\_\_ Linguistic.

I’m \_\_\_\_ Logical.

I’m \_\_\_\_ Interpersonal.

I’m \_\_\_\_ Intrapersonal.

I’m \_\_\_\_ Visual/Spatial.

I’m \_\_\_\_ Musical.

I’m \_\_\_\_ Naturalist.

Use the *Results* tab and answer the following questions.

1. Because I’m a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ learner, I learn best by:

2. Knowing this about my learning, I should improve in these areas: