Dear Parents/Guardian:

Your son/daughter will soon experience many of the responsibilities as the parent of a new computerized infant simulator, as they participate in our “Parenting Unit” which is an established part of the high school health curriculum. As a temporary parent, your son/daughter will care for a computerized infant simulator valued at $800.00 that must be supervised by your son/daughter at all times. The baby will cry and need to be fed, burped, rocked and have its diapers changed. It is your son/daughter’s responsibility to tend to the baby’s needs. The baby is part of the RealCare Parenting Program requiring your son/daughter to be the sole caretaker of the infant simulator.

A small computer inside the baby is programmed to follow actual schedules of 15 different newborns. Each day the baby will be on a different schedule. The baby may need your son/daughter to care for it at inconvenient times, such as during a test, in class or when they are sleeping.

Your son/daughter will be graded and receive a **project grade** that will be included in their 4th marking period grade. Your son/daughter will be graded on learning how to keep the baby happy, understanding of the full-time commitment of child care, their perseverance (getting through the simulation without quitting), the care and condition of the baby and supplies and returning everything to school on time. Incidents of neglect, head support failure, shaking, rough handling, wrong position, no diaper and other functions are recorded by the baby’s computer and lowers your son/daughter’s grade. Some of these behaviors will produce intense crying that your son/daughter should learn to avoid. This intense crying can be stopped by rocking the baby.

Your son/daughter is responsible for the welfare of the child at all times even if the child is left in the care of another student. Disciplining sanctions may be imposed on those students who mistreat the infant simulators and students may be held financially responsible for any damage to this item of school property.

**The infant simulators are school property.** Ms. Dudley-Lemek, Assistant Principal, will be visiting all health classes to inform students of the consequences if the baby is returned damaged or broken. If the baby is abused, damaged, or lost while in your son/daughter’s care, you will be held responsible for repair or replacement costs of up to $800.00. Other charges may be assessed for damaged or missing accessories.

Having read all of the above, I agree to allow my son/daughter to participate in the RealCare Parenting Program and acknowledge that my son/daughter will be held responsible for any and all damage sustained to the infant simulators.

Student’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

No, I do not wish my son/daughter to participate in the RealCare Parenting Program. I understand that if I do not allow my son/daughter to participate in this project, he/she will not receive a lower grade because of my refusal. I understand that an assignment requiring an equal amount of work will be given as a substitute for this project.

Student’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**FAILURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE WILL RESULT IN STUDENT RECEIVING SUBSTITUTE ASSIGNMENT FOR THIS PROJECT.**