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Dear Parents and Guardians,

In the interest of helping your son or daughter succeed in science, I thought I should share some information with you. Please cut off and fill out the bottom of this letter (please keep the top for your reference), indicating you have read it, and have your daughter or son return it to me by the end of the week. That way, I know this important information has been shared with you. The return of this letter will earn each student points.

I know how tough it can be to know whether or not homework is being done on time. Our monthly calendar is published on the Internet at my website Earthling at **http://danling.com/earthling**. The address can also be located through **danling.com**, or the High School website. Each monthly calendar provides information such as what we'll be working on in both class and lab and the due dates of assignments. It is also useful when a student is ill and wants to keep up with assignments. If you do not have convenient access to the Internet, ask your daughter or son to print out a copy of the Calendar at school at the beginning of each month – then you can ask to see it. Also at Earthling you can find information on things like class policies, advice on how to be successful in science, and various chapters of my handbook, which we're using, etc.

I also plan to post student grades on every assignment, lab and test online, at snapgrades.net. More information will be forthcoming at danling.com.

Also, each student has been asked to purchase a few 2-pocket notebooks, pencils, and a calculator.

We do about 1 lab per week, which sometimes must be completed at home then handed in later. **I'm after school on most Tuesdays for help with labs.** According to State requirements, each Regents Earth Science student must submit satisfactory written evidence of completion of a minimum of 20 labs in order to be permitted to sit for the Regents exam in June.

Tests are given at the end of each unit, and the dates are announced ahead of time on the Calendar. It is especially important to study for these, since they are not easy, nor are the grades "curved." At the end of each unit, I assign **review questions** for homework. Completing these on time is essential to preparing for the unit tests.

I want you to know that I am always happy to provide any assistance to you that I can. Please don't hesitate to e-mail me with questions or concerns. I think e-mail is a great way to communicate, because it is quick, convenient, and secure. I would appreciate it if you would provide me with your e-mail address in the space below. I truly appreciate your efforts to encourage our students to do their very best. Have a good year.

Sincerely, Dan Ling

CUT HERE and return

Student Name (print) _____

Parent / Guardian signature _____ **Date** _____

Guardian 1 Name (print) _____ **e-mail address** _____

Guardian 2 Name (print) _____ **e-mail address** _____