

[School Name]

[Address]

[Date]

Dear Parents,

We are providing this letter to inform you that as a part of our driver training class we will cover the topic of organ and tissue donation. This topic is particularly important to students your son/daughter's age as they will be asked if they would like to register to be an organ, eye, and tissue donor when they receive their driver's license.

We know that organ and tissue donation can be a difficult subject to discuss, however in order to help your child make a well informed decision about their donation choice it is important that you to speak to them about the topic. Below are some facts provided by LifeCenter Northwest, our local organ procurement organization, which may help get the conversation started, and correct any misinformation related to donation.

- If you are injured and admitted to the hospital the first priority is to save your life. The medical team caring for you in the hospital and the medical personnel who determine donation suitability are from completely separate organizations. It is only after every attempt has been made to save your life – and death has been determined – that the donation process begins.
- Most major religions in the United States support donation and view it as a final act of love and generosity toward others.
- There is no cost to the donor family for any donation related expenses
- An open casket funeral is possible for organ, eye and tissue donors. Through the entire donation process the body is treated with care, respect and dignity.
- One organ, eye and tissue donor can save or improve the lives of over 50 people.

Organ, eye, and tissue donation is a very personal choice. For further information or to ask more questions about donation please visit the LifeCenter Northwest website at [www.lcnw.org](http://www.lcnw.org) or call 1-877-275-5269.

Currently there are over 118,000 people in the United States waiting for a life-saving organ transplant, and sadly 18 of those people die each day waiting for a second chance. Simply having a conversation about one's wishes regarding organ, eye and tissue donation can help save lives.