Dear Hellgate Middle School parents,

Throughout the school year, students will engage in classroom discussions involving current events happening around the world. There are many times when active young minds naturally ask questions about what they view or read. Teachers often take advantage of the learning opportunity and lead classroom discussion. Please understand that Hellgate Elementary teachers follow School Board Policies when discussing controversial topics.

Board Policy 2105 specifically states "*in a study or discussion of controversial issues, the Board directs teaching staff to take into account the following criteria*:

- *Relative maturity of students*
- *District philosophy of education*
- *Community standards, morals, and values*
- *Necessity for a balanced presentation and*
- *Necessity to seek administrative counsel and guidance in such matters"*

There are times, specifically in Social Studies classrooms as well as Language Arts, where teachers utilize news media (CNN 10) resources to help guide current events discussions.

Out of respect for all, students will be given the opportunity to opt-out of viewing any online media sources that broadcast current events information. We will provide classroom space for those students who opt-out.

Please note and understand that no information broadcast through the online media source will be used in an assessment that would impact a student's final grade, and the teachers will not require an alternative assignment for the students who opt-out. Students will be given the opportunity to work on school work that has already been assigned, which may or may not have any relationship to current events.

If you would like to opt your child out of viewing media sources, please sign and return. Thank you!

_____ **I do not want my child watching media sources (OPT-OUT)**

_____ _____
Parent Name (print) **Parent Signature**

_____ _____ _____
Student name **Grade** **Date**