**Dear Parents/Guardians of [insert student/school name]:**

We realize a transition to middle school is difficult for most students. In addition to preparing students in reading, math, science, social studies, and all the wonderful electives we offer, we also realize the need to provide support in each child’s social-emotional learning. And, because we care about the whole child, we have partnered with Robert Post to come to our school for a show on “How to Survive Middle School”.

The core message of this show is that there is something unique and amazing in all of us. For many kids, middle school is every bit as tough as it was for Robert. Even for those who are smart and successful in school, this time is a confusing one. Robert’s performance, incorporating his personal story, shows students that, however uncertain life may seem right now, they can accomplish things that will belong to nobody else. Moreover, it reassures every kid that, just as Robert had his brother and uncle, there are adults who care about *you*, who see the unique gifts that *you* have, and who want to help you make them your own.

In addressing the social-emotional issues of our students, we realize each child will respond differently. That’s why we believe it is important to engage parents, as well as students, prior and after the show. We will be talking informally with the students to prepare them. We also have planned activities after the show to help students to self-reflect and help empower them make it a great middle school experience!

Prior to the show on [insert date], we encourage you to talk with your child and ask them questions about their current experiences, feelings, and attitudes. Below are a few questions to help you get started. The questions aren’t magic or need to be asked in order, they are just meant to get the conversation started:

1. What’s the best thing you like about middle school?
2. What has been the biggest adjustment from elementary school?
3. Who is someone you go to when you have great news to share?
4. Who is someone you go to when you are feeling sad?
5. What is your biggest hope when you finish middle school?

Sometimes, students need additional support at school to help “survive middle school”. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child’s school counselor [insert name] and [phone number].

Thank you for your partnership in helping your child to find success at [insert school name].

Sincerely,

 [insert principal name]

Principal