Counseling Group Consent Form

I would like my child to participate in group counseling at Mesopotamia Elementary School with Mrs. Fahmy, the counselor. Group counseling gives students the experience of working with two or more students under the guidance of the counselor in order to address feelings, thoughts, behaviors, and/or to learn specific skills. The purpose of group counseling is to work on academic, personal, social, and emotional issues so students will be prepared to focus on school achievement.

Counseling is voluntary and without a guarantee. Your child may stop counseling at any time without negative consequences. At times, sensitive or difficult topics are addressed which may bring about emotional discomfort. However, dealing with these issues can lead to better understanding and acceptance of self and others.

Confidentiality will be guarded within legal and ethical limits of the counseling profession. Sometimes other counseling professionals may need to be consulted, but the student’s identity will be protected. If your child shares that he or she is being harmed, may be harmed, plans to harm himself/herself, another person or property, the counselor will share the information with parents and other appropriate persons.

Confidentiality is an important part of small group work, but it can be a difficult concept for kids. In order to avoid the problems that arise when students go home and tell their parents they can't share anything about group because "it's a secret," It is explained like this: each student can feel free to share what the topic was in group or what he or she said in group but not what other students have shared. Students who break the confidentiality of group and discuss things outside of group with others may be asked to leave the group.

I have read and discussed the above statements with my child. We both understand the conditions in which my child will be participating in counseling with Mrs. Fahmy.

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Parent Signature Today’s Date

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Student’s name Grade/Teacher