**Roosevelt Independent Study**

**Mentor Application- DUE FRIDAY OCTOBER 30th, 2015**

**\* Submissions should be emailed to** [**westfieldindependentstudy@gmail.com**](mailto:westfieldindependentstudy@gmail.com)

*-Our mission is to explore something we are passionate about and to take pride in our creations-*

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E- mail:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**What is Independent Study?**

Roosevelt Independent Study is a voluntary program for 8th graders. Students in the program complete projects on a wide variety of topics that they select for themselves. They will work on the project for the duration of the school year, and present their work at a final presentation. Each student is given a mentor to work with him or her throughout the year.

A mentor is there to guide the student through the process of creating their project. They are there to support the student and offer help when needed, however the project is student led and not the work of the mentor.

A mentor must be able to meet with their assigned student about once a week for about 7 months. Being a mentor is a huge responsibility; we will rely on you to help your student to the best of your ability.

Each student works differently and needs a different type of mentor to work with them. Some students will need more help than others during the course of their project. These questions are designed to determine which student you will work with best, and if you are able to mentor a student appropriately. Please answer the questions truthfully so that each student can get the most out of their Independent Study.

**Questions-** We are not looking for a specific answer. We want to learn about you and how you work. These questions are important for finding the right pair between mentor and student. Feel free to type or use extra paper, and attach to the back:

1. Why are you interested in being a mentor?

2. What are your talents, hobbies, and passions?

3. This is a program where you will find yourself developing a relationship with the child you are mentoring: What is your experience with communicating, connecting with, and relating to others? Explain.

4. How do you go about completing a task or project? How do you prefer to manage your time? Please be honest.

5.  How involved do you think a mentor should be in their mentee’s project? Why? How does this level of involvement affect the learning process?

6. Realistically, during the week, how many hours do you have free (Consider homework, jobs, sports, etc.)? **Generally, which days of the week are you free?**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR MENTORS:**

-Meet with a student about once a week during the school year.

-Check the website often and keep up with upcoming events.

-Attend meetings scheduled for mentors.

-Create a positive experience for each student.

-COMMUNICATE with your student and with us.

-DO NOT do the project; instead, guide the student and assist when needed.

-Attend Final Presentation (late May).

**A message from the program coordinators:**

We are thrilled to have you along with us on the Independent Study journey this year. Please visit our website at freetolearn.weebly.com or contact us if you have any questions.

**High School Coordinators**: [**westfieldindependentstudy@gmail.com**](mailto:westfieldindependentstudy@gmail.com).

**RIS Coordinator:** Jeffery Robbins (teacher at RIS): [jrobbins@westfieldnjk12.org](mailto:jrobbins@westfieldnjk12.org)

**EIS Coordinator:** Kim Schumacher (vice principal at EIS) kschumacher@westfieldnjk12.org