



Hello!

Welcome to Classroom Champions! **Our class will be mentored this year by an Olympian or Paralympian (or an athlete training for these events) from our national team.** Our mentor will send videos each month explaining topics like goal setting, perseverance, giving back to the community, and healthy living. The mentor will issue the class a challenge each month about that month's topic, and also video chat with us twice per year.

Our class was selected to participate during a nationwide competitive application process. About 175 teachers in the U.S. and Canada will be taking part this year. Generous donors support the program financially. There is no cost to our school.

I'm excited and hope this will be a fun experience for you to share in too. Our mentor's monthly video will be online each month so you can follow along at home too. You can find links to videos each month and more information about the program at [www.classroomchampions.org](http://www.classroomchampions.org).

Classroom Champions was founded by Olympic bobsledding gold medalist Steve Mesler and his sister Leigh, an educational researcher. Their parents were public school teachers, and it is very important to them to learn as much as they can about how Classroom Champions works in each classroom. **They would appreciate it if children in grade 4 and above participated in two brief confidential surveys this school year that ask them about participating in Classroom Champions. For younger students, teachers will be asked to report anonymously on randomly selected students' Classroom Champions experience.** This research is overseen by a university research ethics committee, and the only people who will work with the data are the Research Team at Classroom Champions. The attached letter tells more about that process. If you do not want your child included in this research, please email the address on that letter. Your child will still be able to participate in the mentoring.

**Classroom Champions would also like your permission to use pictures of your child's work and him or her participating in the program.** CC will share photos on social media, in publications, and with the donors who fund the program so donors can see what is happening in classrooms. It CC's policy not to use students' last names. If that is OK with you, please sign the attached form. If not, your child can still participate in the mentoring.

Please reach out to me with any questions at all, and I am super excited to be sharing this opportunity with your child and your family!

Sincerely,



## Research Information Letter

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child's class has been selected to participate in Classroom Champions for this school year. The class will be partnered with a year-long Olympian or Paralympian athlete mentor who will work with them on goal setting, perseverance, leadership and other important (and fun!) skills. We're excited to share this opportunity with your child's classroom.

At the beginning and end of the school year, Classroom Champions seeks to survey teachers about individual students' experiences in school and with the program, and to survey students in grade 4 and above about their experiences with Classroom Champions and in school. The survey will take place during school and will take 20-25 minutes to complete.

We are requesting this information so that we can improve the program, and so we can learn about the impacts of participation. You can see the way that we share the data with the public in our annual Report to Community at [www.classroomchampions.org/impact](http://www.classroomchampions.org/impact).

### It is important for you to understand the following information:

- Participating in the surveys is voluntary, and there are no risks to participating. Your child is welcome to participate in Classroom Champions whether or not s/he completes the surveys.
- You may decide to withdraw from the research at any time by contacting our Research Team at [research@classroomchampions.org](mailto:research@classroomchampions.org). Any information collected before withdrawing your child from the research will be retained by Classroom Champions. This will not affect your child's participation in Classroom Champions.
- Survey responses are confidential and anonymized data will be stored digitally indefinitely in a password-protected online environment using SurveyMonkey. Their privacy policy is here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/mp/policy/privacy-policy/>
- Classroom Champions may seek to access anonymized demographic and academic information from your child's school, in accordance with the School Board/District's policies, privacy laws, and responsible research practice.
- We will not provide information that identifies you, your child, your child's school to anyone outside of our research team. Results will only be reported in aggregate, and any identifying information will be removed before data is analyzed.
- If you would like to review the survey questions or materials, please contact [research@classroomchampions.org](mailto:research@classroomchampions.org) and we are happy to share these with you.
- The survey presents minimal risk to your child and has been approved by an independent Institutional Review Board at the University of Lethbridge. Questions regarding your child's rights as a participant in this research may be addressed to the Office of Research Ethics, University of Lethbridge (Phone: 403-329-2747 or Email: [research.services@uleth.ca](mailto:research.services@uleth.ca)).

If you let your child be part of this research, this will help educators learn about how to improve student performance in school, student attitudes toward school, and student growth in mindsets that predict future success. Should you prefer your child not participate in this research, or have questions, please contact the Research Team at [research@classroomchampions.org](mailto:research@classroomchampions.org).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rhiannon MacDonnell".

Rhiannon MacDonnell, PhD  
Head of Research, Classroom Champions

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leigh Parise".

Leigh Parise, PhD  
Head of Education, Classroom Champions



### Image Permission Slip

Child Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your child's teacher, with support from the school principal (the "Classroom Champions Liaisons") has been selected to participate in the Classroom Champions program. Information about Classroom Champions is available at [www.classroomchampions.org](http://www.classroomchampions.org). In order for the Classroom Champions Liaisons to release videos, photos, audio and student work from your child, we ask you to complete the permission grant below.

I am the legal parent or guardian of the child named above. I permit the Classroom Champions Liaisons to photograph and video my child while he/she participates in Classroom Champions activities. I permit the Classroom Champions Liaisons to share videos and photos of my child and my child's class work with Classroom Champions. I also permit Classroom Champions to use my child's work samples, videos, and photographs in Classroom Champions' online and printed promotional materials. Additionally, I permit Classroom Champions to provide these materials to Classroom Champions' sponsors only for the sponsors' use related to Classroom Champions.

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_