August 30, 2013

Dear Saturday School Family,

We are writing you to let you know about an exciting research study being conducted at Georgia State University. The study will examine how different parent and child characteristics relate to parenting and children’s behaviors. You and your spouse or another primary caregiver as well as your children are invited to participate because your children are enrolled in the Saturday School and you are parents or caregivers of children enrolled in the Saturday School program. A total of 650 families will be recruited for this study.

We are interested in the behaviors of children and parents because they are critical for children’s well-being. We will conduct this study over 24 months in four phases to track information as your children grow and develop. If you participate, your family will receive a 5% tuition reduction toward one Saturday School session for each phase of the study completed.

In this study, you will be asked to complete a series of surveys. We will ask you about your personality, general functioning, how you interact with your family, your approach to parenting, and your child’s well-being. The first phase of the study will involve you taking part in a computer task that will take no more than 30 minutes. You can do this part during one of the Saturday School sessions. You will then have the option of either completing the surveys in-person while waiting for your child, or online at your convenience. All subsequent phases will be completed online. Your participation is completely voluntary and you can decline to participate at anytime.

Additionally, your children will be asked to play some computer thinking games. The games will ask him/her to use a computer mouse or keyboard to complete tasks on the computer screen. For example, he/she will be asked to respond to various stimuli or to remember numbers and then type them on the keyboard. Your child will participate on the day that he/she is in the Saturday School program. A member from the research team will help your child play the computer games which will take no more than 30 minutes. Participation is voluntary. Your child does not have to be in this study. If you change your mind, your child can drop out at any time. Your child can stop at any time. Whatever you and your child decide will not change the way the program staff treats you or your child.

Participation in the Saturday School Parenting Study is simple; please check in at the reception desk located on the second floor of the Classroom South Building at Georgia State University, just as you do for Saturday School during the Spring Session A, 2013. No prior appointment or
reservation will be necessary. For any questions or more information, please contact us at SatSchoolStudy@gmail.com or telephone: 404-413-6250.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. John E. Kesner  
Associate Professor  
Executive Director, Saturday School of Scholars and Leaders  
Department of Early Childhood Education

[Signature]

Dr. Robert D. Latzman  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology