Dear Parents & Guardians,

Benjamin Franklin is quoted as saying, *“Tell me and I forget,*teach me*and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”* I believe that hands-on, authentic, experiential learning forms a deep, passionate knowledge in students and can foster cultural awareness and global mindfulness. For this reason, I am exceptionally pleased to announce that my colleagues and I are planning to take students on an 11-day service-learning tour of Ecuador and the Galapagos next August, 2016.

From the metropolis of Quito, to the top of the Andes Mountains, to the majesty of the Galapagos Islands, Ecuadorian and indigenous customs and local culture will come to life on this trip. While we connect with Andean communities, we will gain insight into the challenges they face, including poverty, access to education, and gender inequality. Partnering with *Free The Children*, we will volunteer and learn from Ecuadorians as we help to implement sustainable solutions to these challenges. After volunteering for several days, we will embark on a tropical adventure to the Galapagos Islands where nature, wildlife, and scientific theories will come into focus as we explore the islands and visit the Charles Darwin Research Station.

There is limited space on this trip, so I do hope that you and your studentwill consider joining us at the upcoming information and enrollment meeting to learn more about this opportunity! Though the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District *does not* sponsor international extracurricular trips, our trip will be coordinated by EF Tours; we are traveling with EF because of their reputation as the world leader in international education and because EF guarantees the lowest prices for the highest quality.

My colleagues and I will be hosting an enrollment meeting on **May 7th** at 6:30 pm at the **Plainsboro Public Library.** I hope you will come and learn more!

Plainsboro Public Library

9 Van Doren Street, Plainsboro, NJ 08536

<http://www.lmxac.org/plainsboro/index.html>

Warm regards,

Ashley Warren

www.senorawarren.weebly.com

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**Coming to the enrollment meeting on May 7thth?**

RSVP here please:

<http://tiny.cc/ecuador2016>

Please provide your email when you RSVP so that we can send you additional information. Thank you!