

Dear Parent,

Firstly, on behalf of the entire My Name My Story Team - thank you. As a parent, you are molding a generation of future leaders & each day you have the unique opportunity to change your child's life. We are grateful for your selflessness & serving heart.

Now we'll introduce ourselves: My Name My Story is an organization that develops changemakers based on the belief that stories inspire empathy, and empathy drives change. The theory is simple - if young people have the opportunity to learn how to share their own story and listen closely to others, they will gain empathy. And naturally, empathetic young people will be inclined to actively seek out ways to positively change their communities. Our job is to provide a program to students that allows them to practice these skills.

Our work begins and ends with storytelling - with numerous exercises that invite students to reflect on their own narrative and how it shapes their personal identity, as well as how their story intersects with that of the larger school community. We teach students to seize opportunities that others miss by inventing new approaches, collaborating with other leaders, and seeking creative and sustainable solutions to improve your school.

These 21st century skills are especially valuable in today's workforce - with a growing emphasis on diversity and innovation, students must practice solving real-world problems young. We've leveraged the minds of students, parents, and educators to craft resources, tools, and exercises that flex these skill muscles & your school is now part of our mission.

Your child's administration has chosen to bring the "Changemaker Day" program to your school. In doing so, they have chosen to take action to create a positive culture in your school- a culture of empathy and changemaking.

We believe in the power of young people, We are here to ask good questions, introduce your kids to new concepts, and provide them with the skills and the tools to create powerful positive change. Together, we will create an open, empathetic space that provides a foundation not only for your kids to connect with one another, but to work together to achieve a common goal.

These are divisive times. Our current political and social atmosphere tends to emphasize the differences between groups of people as a problem, rather than focusing on the strength that comes from diversity. The way to narrow the empathy gap in this country is through harnessing storytelling and collaboration to create unity- through conversations that seek to understand *why* before expressing our own perspectives. This event is the beginning.

Here's to striving for what we believe in with integrity, and with fearlessness. Here's to creating a better tomorrow.

With gratitude,
The My Name My Story Team

