

September 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians of NNHS AP Biology Students,

As part of our study of ecology, the first unit of our AP Biology curriculum, we will be taking one or more field trips to Cabot Woods (aka Edmand's Park) and Bullough's Pond. It is likely that we will return to these sites at other times during the academic year. We will undertake various scientific investigations at our field sites, including water quality monitoring and plant population studies.

We will walk to one or the other of these locations during your student's Biology class block. Cabot Woods is approximately .5 miles from campus, and the pond is about .2 miles from the main Walnut Street entrance. The walks in each direction will be at a brisk pace so as to maximize our field time.

When scheduled, field trips will take place regardless of weather, so students should come prepared to don appropriate outdoor garb.

Please sign the attached permission slip, which will cover these assorted AP Biology field excursions for the entirety of the 2015-2016 school year.

**Please note:** In order for students to be fully present, we work in a no- cell-phone (including texting and all entertainment applications) zone. This includes when we are in transit to and from the field sites, when we are at the field sites, and when we are in class, unless there is a life-threatening emergency. We believe strongly that the powers of observation will be impaired by the intrusion of electronic devices not immediately applicable to field investigations. We look forward to sharing some exciting field experiences with you!

Sincerely,  
Shu-Yee Chen (shu-yee\_chen@newton.k12.ma.us)

I have read, understood, and will fully comply with the information above.

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_