

# STRIDE CONFERENCE 2010

Our annual STRIDE conference will be held April 29– May 1 this year. Participants are chosen by lottery.

If you are interested in attending, you must **attach a check for \$360** made out to Mountain Brook Jr. High School by Tuesday, February 9 at 12:00 P.M. This check represents a serious commitment to attend the conference, and only \$310 will be refunded if your name is drawn and you drop out for any reason. Any student on the waiting list who does not get a chance to take the trip will get a full refund.

**This cost provides:** Transportation, lodging, all meals while at the conference, honorarium for national speaker, T-shirt, conference supplies. Students will be responsible for one fast food meal going to and from the conference and a shopping spree at the Dollar General Store.

All names of students who have turned in checks will be placed in a drawing to be held in the school auditorium at 3:00 P.M. on February 9th. **NINTH GRADERS WHO HAVE NEVER ATTENDED STRIDE WILL HAVE TWO CHANCES TO EVERYONE ELSE'S ONE CHANCE. You DO NOT have to be present at the drawing,** but all are welcome. Names will be drawn and a number assigned to each. This list will be the STRIDE participants and alternates in order for this year's conference.

The STRIDE conference is one of the focal points of the Spartan Club each year. It is an intensive experience focusing on positive self-images, drug and alcohol awareness, and decision making processes. Led by an experienced, enthusiastic expert and the members of the Council of Spartans, 8th and 9th grade students participate in large and small group activities for two and one-half days at Destin, FL. Through the years students have attested to the overwhelming success of STRIDE.

The first weekend in May each year 90 lucky students chosen by lottery, board buses and embark on the STRIDE trip to Destin, FL. **Excerpts from STRIDE:** **Katie Covington** "by day three our lives were changed forever and we didn't even know it was coming..." "Take off your mask" a phrase we heard everyday was our theme" **Nicki Wilcox** "under the influence of John Hewitt and Coach Knott, students are able to grow and flourish in many areas they never knew existed...restores friendships, forms new ones, creates unforgettable memories" **Madeline Stivender** "STRIDE: a once in a life time experience" **Clayton Bartlett** "nothing can compare" **Carson Scott** "STRIDE didn't make me a better person; it just let the better person inside of me know that being that person was ok"... STRIDE culminates with an emotional and meaningful ceremony ...Day 3 is a sad one, the time to leave and head back has arrived...all STRIDERS have as Coach Knott says "been a part of a mountaintop experience.. They learned a lot about themselves, their friends, and the values of life."

**Sign up to join the fun! Return the form below with your check.**

**We, the parents of \_\_\_\_\_, understand that the attached check is for registration for the STRIDE conference April 29- May 1. Mandatory Meeting for Students: Sunday, April 25, 2:30–6:00.**

**We also understand that if our child withdraws after the drawing for any reason our refund will be \$310.**

**Requirement:** Any student making a "D" or "F" at semester is not eligible to attend STRIDE. **Grades will be checked after the lottery**

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

Grade \_\_\_\_ Attended SRIDE last year? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Circle your T-shirt size **S M L XL**

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_