



BREAKTHROUGH LEADERS APPLICATION

Must be turned in to the Breakthrough office or postmarked no later than Saturday, March 7, 2009.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name	_____	Date	_____
	first middle last		
Primary Address	_____	Phone	() _____
	number street city state zip		
Other Address	_____	Phone	() _____
	number street city state zip		

APPLICATION ESSAY

Please write a **one-page** essay on a **separate sheet** of paper that is **typed or neatly handwritten**. It should represent your most thoughtful and careful work, and it should address both of these points.

- What is a leader? Tell us about a time at Breakthrough when you were a leader.
- Why do you want to be a Breakthrough Leader? What qualities will you bring that will help you serve as a positive and effective leader and role model for younger BSP students?

Your application will be complete once you have completed your leadership task for BSP (details on flyer). Remember we also will take into account your attendance, work ethic, and performance at BSP and at school.

CAMPING TRIP COST

Please Check One:

- If I am accepted, I will pay the \$25 cost for the YMCA camping trip.
- I would like to go on the trip but need some assistance in paying the \$25 cost.

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

I understand that the Breakthrough Leaders Program is a very special opportunity for me and I am willing to commit myself to the program for the Summer of 2009. My family and I understand that I must be available to participate every weekday between June 22 and July 31, from about 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m, and during the afternoon and evening of Saturday, August 1 for Celebration. Furthermore, I understand that there will be a challenging 8-day camping trip through the YMCA as well, from June 25 through July 2, and I commit to participating. Finally, I understand that as a BSP Leader I will do one and a half hours of homework each night.

Student Signature _____

I understand that the Breakthrough Leaders Program requires a high degree of responsibility and maturity from students. I agree to help my child make this commitment and attend the program every weekday between June 22 and July 31, 2009, from approximately 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., as well as on Saturday August 1 for Celebration. I give my permission for my child to participate on an 8-day camping trip with the YMCA from June 25 through July 2. I also understand that parents will be asked to come to the program for Family Conferences, to attend Celebration, and possibly for other special events.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

February 1, 2009

Dear 8th grade Breakthrough Families,

We are pleased to announce that Breakthrough Saint Paul will be offering the 3rd annual Breakthrough Leaders Program (BLP) for the rising ninth graders in the summer of 2009. This optional third-year component is a special opportunity for those students who choose to participate directly with Breakthrough in the summer after 8th grade. We have 14 spots available for this summer. This program is one of the many summer options that 8th grade students will be exploring.

The Breakthrough Leaders Program is a **six-week summer commitment** (June 22 - July 31, 2009). This third-year program focuses on building leadership skills. The experiences are incorporated directly into the Breakthrough summer program.

Near the beginning of the summer session, Breakthrough Leaders will participate in a specially designed and professionally facilitated YMCA camping trip for 8 days, from June 25 to July 2, to gain valuable leadership experience that they will bring back to the Breakthrough community. The two Breakthrough camping groups will each be single-sex and accompanied by a BSP faculty member. Activities will include canoeing, orienteering, and cooking. Students will sleep in tents and sleeping bags. The cost of a trip like this is normally \$660 per student, but because of a strong partnership BSP has developed with the YMCA, students and families will be able to take advantage of this opportunity for only \$25.

After this exciting camping trip, Breakthrough Leaders will take on real positions of leadership in the normal daily routine of the summer. Each student will become a lead student in one core class, one elective course, and college; help design and lead daily YO Time activities; plan and lead All School Meetings; organize and facilitate Spirit Week and Spirit Day activities; and plan the annual Alumni Event on the afternoon of Celebration. The BLP students will use their three-periods of class time to prepare for and reflect on each of these leadership opportunities.

Just as in the past, the students in the Breakthrough Leaders Program will take the school bus to and from BSP daily, and the program will provide breakfast and lunch.

To be a Breakthrough Leader, students must complete the attached form and essay question and return it to the Breakthrough Saint Paul office or postmark it by **Saturday, March 7, 2009**. Students will be selected for the Breakthrough Leaders Program based on their current commitment to the program, their positive attitude, hard work, and the leadership skills they have already demonstrated at BSP. **This is a special opportunity for BSP 8th grade graduates.** We're glad to share it with you!

Please contact us if you have any questions about the Breakthrough Leaders Program. We look forward to seeing your application!

Sincerely,

Jey Moon
High School Program Coordinator