Parents,

As part of our Bloodborne Pathogens lesson I would like to show the movie *Philadelphia*. As part of the objectives of this topic, the students should be able to identify the bloodborne diseases of greatest risk to healthcare works. Albeit this movie does not deal with health care workers, it does depict HIV and AIDS and how it relates or affects the general public. This movie would supplement in learning more specifically about HIV infection and AIDS and by answering related questions to the movie about this virus. I please ask your permission that your child view this movie and take part in class discussion. If you do not feel this movie is appropriate for your child, he/she will be given an alternate assignment, but in no way will be penalized as the assignment s will be graded equally.

*Philadelphia* was the first major Hollywood movie to broach the subject of AIDS and discrimination based on AIDS. Its content may seem a little dated and overly preachy now, but it needs to be viewed in the context of 1993, which is when it was made, which is when AIDS remained a somewhat taboo subject. It still does, to a lesser extent now in 2016. In 1993, it was commonly assumed that you could catch AIDS by using the same utensils as someone who was HIV positive, or by shaking their hand, or by kissing or hugging them. Also included in your student’s assignment will be questions regarding HIV and AIDS transmission and possible treatments of this virus in accordance with the movie.

Movie synopsis:

*Philadelphia* (PG-13)*:* Tom Hanks, in his first Academy Award-winning performance, plays Andrew Beckett, a talented lawyer at a stodgy Philadelphia law firm. Andrew has contracted AIDS but fears informing his firm about the disease. The firm's senior partner, Charles Wheeler (Jason Robards), assigns Andrew a case involving their most important client. Andrew begins diligently working on the case, but soon the lesions associated with AIDS are visible on his face. Wheeler abruptly removes Andrew from the case and fires him from the firm. Andrew believes he has been fired because of his illness and plans to fight the firm in court. But because of the firm's reputation, no lawyer in Philadelphia will risk handling his case. In desperation, Andrew hires Joe Miller (Denzel Washington), a black lawyer who advertises on television, mainly handling personal injury cases. Miller dislikes homosexuals but agrees to take the case for the money and exposure. As Miller prepares for the courtroom battle against one of the law firm's key litigators, Belinda Conine (Mary Steenburgen), Miller begins to realize the discrimination practiced against Andrew is no different from the discrimination Miller himself has to battle against.

 Mrs. Lemmond

No, I prefer that my son/daughter be given an alternate assignment

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Student Name Parent Signature