

Dear _____

Congratulations! You have been identified by _____ as one of the best and brightest in your class. Specifically, you have been selected as one of the students most likely to excel at the quiz games, It's Academic, and Quizmaster Challenge.

My name is Mr. Jay Hepner and I'm the coach of Quince Orchard's It's Academic team. Since taking over in the fall of 1998, the Academic Cougars have been county champions in '99-'00, and '01-02, 1st Runners Up on It's Academic in '99-'00, and '03-'04, and have won six other tournaments since the spring of '99. We are currently in the semi-finals of Quizmaster Challenge for the fifth year of the eight I've been coaching the team.

We participate in It's Academic, Quizmaster Challenge—on the MCPS Channel, 34—as well as local high school and college tournaments and the national quiz, Knowledge Master Open. In all, we participate in various quiz tournaments from September through May, making us, like newspaper, yearbook, or drama, the kind of activity that keeps one's mind engaged throughout the year. Unlike those other activities, though, there is no It's Academic class.

Best of all, students can easily do both It's Academic as well as other extra-curriculars. Because our activity is year-round, the importance of individual practices is minimized. Practices the day before a big tournament, such as It's Academic, as well as regular e-mail / phone communications ARE essential, but we at It's Academic encourage wide-ranging interests in our players. The more you know, the stronger our team can be.

Join the great QO It's Academic team winning tradition. If you're interested but can't make it today, ask a teacher or team member to send an email to Coach Hepner.

QO It's Academic—IF YOU'VE GOT A CLUE, WE WANT *YOU!* We're looking for a few good minds. We'd love to see you in Room 326 on Friday afternoons for questions and answers on a world of subjects.

PS We do have a special Freshman / Sophomore Quizmaster Invitational tournament on Tuesday, March 14th, and we'd love you to play!

Sincerely,

Jay Hepner
English Composition Assistant
Watkins Mill High School
Academic Team Coach
Quince Orchard High School
2000, 2002 County Champions
Forensics/Debate Coach

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