

Island Trees Memorial Middle School

English Department
Social Studies Department

Dear Staff,

When our students at Island Trees Memorial Middle School enter seventh grade English classes, they begin the year with a novel called *A Long Walk to Water*. It is the story of the journey of one of the Lost Boys of Sudan, Salva Dut. The Lost Boys are a group of young boys who were forced to flee their homes and country (on foot, through the African wilderness) as a result of civil war in their villages.



As an exciting addition to our curriculum this year, we are lucky enough to have a guest speaker, **Sebastian Maroundit**, also a Lost Boy of Sudan, come to speak to our seventh and eighth grade students. Sebastian has created an organization called Building Minds in South Sudan. Their mission is to rebuild schools in war-torn, poverty, and famine stricken South Sudan, as well as to promote gender equality in education. Because of the ongoing war in South Sudan, education has suffered greatly.



We would like to help raise funds for Sebastian to put toward his future endeavors in his native country. Bricks made from red construction paper will be sold for \$1 each during all lunch periods. Every brick purchased will be displayed in the main lobby and we are hoping to add enough bricks to build a school building display for Sebastian's visit on December 8. We would love it if you could encourage your students to purchase bricks during their lunch periods to contribute to this worthy cause. Feel free to purchase your own bricks as well! Thank you for your support!

If you have any questions, please see Debbie Villano, Michelle Friedman, Danielle Azar, Amanda Steele or Dan Keegan.



BUY A BRICK FOR \$1

**Help build a school in
South Sudan!**

Building Minds in South Sudan

Mission:

Building Minds in South Sudan, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing educational opportunities for villagers in the Republic of South Sudan.

The organization seeks to:

1. Build primary schools, first in the village of Mayen-Abun in South Sudan, and then beyond
2. Provide gender equality through promoting education for girls
3. Advance students' ability to realize their full human potential and development
4. Provide villages with a central hub (the school) which will restore the sense of community
5. Improve the quality of education through teacher training

Bricks will be sold during all lunch periods.

**BUY A BRICK FOR
\$1**

**HELP KIDS IN
SOUTH SUDAN
ACHIEVE THEIR
DREAMS!**

Bricks will be sold during all lunch periods.

**BUY A BRICK FOR
\$1**

**BECAUSE
EDUCATION IS
IMPORTANT
EVERYWHERE!**

Bricks will be sold during all lunch periods.