

## **Avalanche Awareness & Rescue Training Parents and Students Letter**

Dear Parents and Students,

We are excited to announce that the Avalanche Awareness and Rescue Training is now offered as an option for the entire five weeks of the Telluride High School winter PE program. This training is open to any Telluride High School 10th or 11th grade student who wishes to learn about avalanche awareness and rescue from professional guides and instructors.

Please note that the training size is limited to only ten students, so we encourage interested students to apply soon. Please reach out to Jamie Stewart Athletic Assistant at the TMHS.

To participate in the training, students will need to commit to attending all Thursday and Friday winter PE dates during the five weeks, totaling ten sessions of training. This is important as the training will build upon previous lessons. However, we understand that unforeseen circumstances may occasionally arise. Therefore, students who attend at least eight of the ten training dates will still receive a certificate of completion.

For each training day, students must meet their guides/instructors fully dressed with all the necessary equipment in front of the high school entrance by 1 p.m. Our professional guides from San Juan Outdoor Adventures/Telluride Adventures and instructors from the local non-profit Telluride Avalanche School will transport the students to the designated field locations in company vehicles. These field locations have been carefully chosen to ensure the group's safety. As this training involves studying and learning in avalanche terrain, it is essential that all students have and properly wear their avalanche rescue equipment for safety purposes.

Please ensure your child dresses appropriately for the elements and various winter conditions. In case weather and or road conditions are unsuitable for travel to a location, the group will remain closer to the school premises. The training day will end around 3:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. when students will be transported back to the school.

To apply for the Avalanche Awareness and Rescue Training, please complete the Avalanche Awareness and Rescue Training application form and return it to Jamie Stewart Athletic Assistant TMHS office along with all the other required paperwork and payment. If your child does not have a backcountry mode of travel, arrangements can be made to rent snowshoes. It is also essential to indicate whether your child has access to the required avalanche rescue equipment or if they need to rent it for the training.

Additionally, please ensure all necessary agreement and release forms, including the San Juan Outdoor School Adventures, LLC Participant Agreement, Release,

Assumption of Risk Waiver, and the San Juan Outdoor School Adventures, LLC Personal Photograph Release Form, are completed and signed.

If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to get in touch with Joshua Butson at the provided contact information below. We look forward to a successful and educational training session.

Best Regards,

Joshua Butson

Owner and Lead Guide  
San Juan Outdoor Adventures/Telluride Adventures

And

President of the non-profit  
San Juan Field School/Telluride Avalanche School

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