



Dear Parents,

Once again our school district is planning to offer all students, free of charge, an exciting approach to learning called **Summer Journey**. **Summer Journey's** extraordinary educational goals are comprised of over 60 hours of academic courses, with hands-on instruction centered on reading, language arts, math, social studies, and science. This year, we have selected several of the *brand new* STEM-based courses, focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. We also had the opportunity to select courses that Catapult has updated with brand new materials and activities.

Included with this letter is a registration form. When completing this form, there are two key points to remember:

1. The form must be returned by the cutoff date of **May 3**.
2. The form must be filled out completely, *especially the transportation arrangements*. (This helps us avoid delays on the first day.)

Your help with these two details will allow us to get your student's class schedule and bus stops organized quickly and mailed to you. **If you return your form after the May 3 cutoff, we cannot guarantee that transportation will be available for your student during that first week, and you might have to provide your own transportation.**

If you are the parent of a child who will be entering kindergarten in the fall of 2019, I strongly encourage you to consider enrolling your child in **Summer Journey**. We have noticed that when new students meet their teachers, fellow students, and our staff during the summer, they are eager to return in the fall and find that "first day of school" experience to be a positive one.

To make the program even more enticing to students, an extensive incentives program characterizes **Summer Journey**. Students will be eligible to receive daily prizes if they come to school, exhibit a positive attitude, and work to improve their academic achievement. At the end of the program, some lucky students will also win grand prizes that will be awarded on the final day. Additionally, as in past years, all of our students who demonstrate outstanding attendance will be rewarded with an attendance recognition ranging from \$30 to \$60 by our Summer School partner Catapult Learning. We encourage all students to sign up for summer school. Simply put, it's good for kids. Take a look at the information enclosed. You'll be glad you did!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Desi Kirchhofer".

Dr. Desi Kirchhofer  
Superintendent

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the *Summer Journey* program?**

The Northwest R-I *Summer Journey* is the extended learning summer program operated by Northwest R-I to provide a world-class educational experience to district students.

### **What does the program cost to parents?**

The programming is free to all students.

### **When will the program be held?**

The Northwest R-I *Summer Journey* program dates will be announced later in the spring. Times are: Grades K–5: 8:35 a.m. to 3:33 p.m.; and Grades 6–12: 7:25 a.m. to 2:23 p.m.

***Changes will be announced.***

### **Must my child be in attendance every hour of the program in order to receive credit for the *Summer Journey* program?**

No. It is assumed that students may have vacations or camps planned. While prizes for good attendance are available to students, a child's occasional absence should not deter parents from enrolling their children in the program.

### **Will transportation be provided to and from the program?**

Yes, transportation will be provided for those student families who qualify for transportation during the regular school year. However, bus routes will be limited and may vary from routes during the regular school year. Transportation information will be sent to those families who require transportation as soon as the plan becomes available.

### **What will my child(ren) do each day?**

In the morning, Elementary and Middle School *Summer Journey* students will attend exciting academic classes where they may read interesting adventure stories, play language arts games, and/or use technology to solve math mysteries. A typical schedule would include four morning classes of Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science or Social Studies. After lunch, students will explore three fun-filled courses for the first 12 days enrolled in the program, followed by three different courses in the last 12 days.

### **How does the incentive program work?**

Many students will win daily incentives for their efforts through a daily drawing or some similar format established by the summer site. Your student is also eligible to receive one of the following incentives for their *Summer Journey* attendance:

- 0 hours missed = \$60 gift card
- 0–6.5 hours missed = \$45 gift card
- 7–13 hours missed = \$30 gift card

### **Will breakfast and lunch be served each day?**

Yes, students will be served lunches using the same systems used during the regular school term. As a result, students should plan to purchase meals (or bring lunch) in the same way they do during the regular school year.

### **How do I enroll my child for *Summer Journey*?**

Simply fill out the enrollment form found in the front pocket of this brochure and return it to your child's school.



## Student Incentives

### Attendance Incentives

Student incentives are dependent on attendance.

#### **\$60 Shopping Card**

Perfect attendance - 0 hours missed

#### **\$45 Shopping Card**

Up to 6.5 hours\* missed

#### **\$30 Shopping Card**

Over 6.5 hours, up to 13 hours\* missed

\* 6.5 hours is the equivalent of one day missed.

\*13 hours is the equivalent of two days missed.

Gift cards can be used in the local stores or malls. The attendance incentives are contingent on actual (full-day) attendance in the *Summer Journey*™ program.

### Daily Incentives

Daily incentives will be awarded to students on basis of good attitude and achievement as determined by each site.

# Northwest R-I Summer Journey™ Course Offerings

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All **Academic Courses** (Language Arts, Mathematics, Reading, Science and/or Social Studies) are offered during morning sessions. All **Journey Courses** are offered during afternoon sessions. Students participate in *Journey* courses for two week blocks, enabling every student to participate in six *Journey* courses.

## Kindergarten

(students entering K in the Fall)

### Kids at Work

“Work” is fun in the four-weekly mini-units Dinosaur Bones, Pat-A-Cake, At the Pet Shop, and Detectives for Hire. Each activity is designed to foster early learning concepts, such as letter and sound recognition, phonemic awareness, measurement, counting, and shape recognition. From digging for fossils to tracking down missing letters, this unit offers multi-level activities appropriate for all early learners.

### 3-2-1 Blast Off!

We’re blasting off into fun and learning during the afternoon portion of the Summer Journey program. This theme-packed unit is sure to delight and amaze all budding astronauts! After enjoying a daily quiet time under the stars, students rotate through different playful planets and participate in astronaut training camp. From creating silly aliens to designing outer space rockets, this course offers an out-of-this-world experience!

## Primary

(students entering grades 1, 2, 3 in the Fall)

Cubelets BOT Builder      Launch into Rockets  
Lifetime Sports Primary      Pirate Camp  
Stacking Madness Primary  
Tech Lab

## Elementary

(students entering grades 4 & 5 in the Fall)

BrickLAB Build a Better World  
CAD Camp      Claymation  
Field Day Junior      Flight & Aerodynamics  
Local Performance

## Intermediate

(students entering grades 6–8 in the Fall)

60 Seconds or Less      All for One  
Drone Blocks      Local Performance  
Structural Design Camp      Survivor Camp

## High School

Please contact the high school directly for a complete list of summer courses.

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## Northwest R-I *Enrollment Information Enclosed*

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