



Horace Mann Elementary School

921 N. Kenilworth ▪ Oak Park ▪ Illinois ▪ 60302 ▪ ph: 708.524.3085 ▪ fax: 708.524.3049 ▪ www.op97.org/mann

To: Oak Park School District 97 School Board

From: Mann School Principal Sam LeDeaux
1st Grade Teacher and Odyssey of the Mind Coach Cristen Vincent

Re: Overnight Field Trip-Odyssey of the Mind Worlds Competition at
Iowa State University
Scheman Building #102
Ames, Iowa 50011
(515) 294-3347

Date: Departure from Mann School May 28, 2014
Returning to Oak Park June 1, 2014 about 4:00 pm

Purpose: Mann School Odyssey of the Mind Club students (see list of students below) will be participating in the Worlds competition in East Lansing, Michigan. Odyssey of the Mind is a team, creative, problem-solving club that promotes communication, innovative thinking and skill building.

Overnight Lodging: Hotel Information for parents will be provided.
Horace Mann Student will be lodging in dormitories on the Iowa State University campus.

Transportation: Student's families will be carpooling to the event. Students and their families arrive the night before the competition (May 28) for the Olympic-like opening ceremonies and competition takes place on May 29th, 2014 through May 31st, 2014.

Participants: See chart below.

Many thanks to our PTO (who is helping to offset costs) and to the parent coaches: Dr. Erin Taback, Heinrich Lubinis, Denise Roser and Jimmy Walsh.

Mann Student Participants	Mann Parent Chaperones
Problem 3 – It's How We Rule	
Lauren Hyman (5 th Gr.)	Dr. Erin Taback
Sam Lubinis (4 th Gr.)	Heinreich Lubinis
Katie Curtin (5 th Gr.)	Susan Curtin
Amelia Yu (5 th Gr.)	Xiaoying Chen
Quincy Martin (5 th Gr.)	Robyn Martin
Problem 4 – Stackable Structure	
Ethan Gale (5 th Gr.)	Bill Gale and Xue Tan
Owen McMillian (5 th Gr.)	
Sabine Roser (4 th Gr.)	Denise Roser
Tom Shi (5 th Gr.)	Fuqiang Shi
Sara Walsh (4 th Gr.)	Jimmy Walsh
Mann Staff Chaperone	
	Mrs. Cristen Vincent (1 st grade teacher)

Proposal for Overnight / Extended Student Trips

Type of Trip: World Competition of Odyssey of the Mind

Departure Date: 5/28/14

Return: 6/1/14

Proposer: Cristen Vincent

Position: Head Coach

Date by Which Response is needed: 4/30/14

Proposal Date: 4/10/14

A1. Event to be Attended: Participate in Odyssey of the Mind World Competition

2. Odyssey of the Mind promotes problem solving, problem solving stamina, teamwork and creativity in using the content of what students learn in school.

3. Not only do students benefit by reworking their problem solutions to bring them up to a level of more intense competition, they also learn that failure and re-attacking a problem is a normal part of making a better product / presentation, but they also get to see how other solve the same problem and other problems and to meet and interact with children from all over the U.S. and the World.

4. The District benefits by earning a reputation for schools where problem solving, team work, and stamina for challenge are the norm.

5.

B1 Student competitors:

Problem 3 -	Lauren Hyman	5 th grade
	Sam Lubinis	4 th grade
	Katie Curtin	5 th grade
	Amelia Yu	5 th grade
	Quincy Martin	5 th grade
Problem 4 -	Sara Walsh	4 th grade
	Sabine Roser	4 th grade
	Ethan Gale	5 th grade
	Owen McMillian	5 th grade
	Tom Shi	5 th grade

B2 10

B3 0

B4 Cristen Vincent

B5 This is the 5th year I will be taking a group of students to this same competition at its various locations.

B6 No other staff members will be going.

- B7 Two other parent chaperones will be in attendance the entirety of the trip. Additional parents will be in attendance for various portions of the trip.
- B8 Dr. Erin Taback is Lauren Hyman's mom and is a pediatrician. Denise Roser is Sabine Roser's mom.
- B9 Students will miss most of Olympic Day and two additional days of school. Their teachers have already been notified for planning end of year assessment and activities.
- B10 Teachers have already been advised via email by me of the students who will miss school days.
- C1 Missed work can be made up on the car rides to the competition and during competition down time.
- C2 N/A
- D1 Iowa State University
- D2 Students be riding with their parents, some carpooling. Individual drivers carry personal auto insurance.
- D3 Students and chaperones will be staying in Iowa State University dormitory housing and eating in on campus residence hall dining rooms.
- D4 There are no enroute plans. On campus, in addition to the competition there is an Activities Fair (challenging 3D problem solving puzzles, games and activities), a NASA exhibit, university recreational facilities are open to us. In addition to this the students will spend time watching other competitors and interacting with students from around the U. S. and around the world.
- D5 Odyssey of the Mind / Creative Competitions requires an emergency medical form be filled out and turned in for each participant. I keep copies of these with me at all times and also have parent cell numbers with me. One of the parent chaperones is also a pediatrician. Many of the non-chaperone parents will also be spending all or part of the time with the group or at nearby hotels.
- D6 No tour guides are involved.
- E1 The membership fee, paid at the beginning of the year was \$135, and we paid \$155 to participate in the State competition. These two expenses plus our qualifying scores are the only competition fees. The cost for each participant and coach to stay in the dorm is \$531 (x 13 = \$6903). This covers room and board. Because families are carpooling and coming up to the competition there are no travel costs for the

children to participate. Students may have individual expenses for souvenirs, etc. but these will be covered by the families.

E2 Our PTO has pledged \$200 dollars per participant, for which the students are planning to do some community service. We are also planning to do some fund raising letters to local and Mann-family businesses. For the most part families will fund the rest.

E3 Payments will be made directly thru the Odyssey of the Minds registration website, so no one will need to have any large sums of cash anywhere.

E4 The OOTM account has a small balance to help fund any short fall. No excess funds are expected, but if that were to occur, the OOTM account would keep those funds to fund next year's program or students who couldn't afford travel in the future.

E5 So far, no families have come forward who can't afford to fund the trip. If a family needed some help the OOTM account has a small balance to help.

F1 Communication with parents has been primarily via email, I also met twice with parents to make clear the pros and cons of the trip and to discuss financials, logistics, etc. I also make a trip spread sheet with important phone numbers addresses, etc. and keep that with me, with other chaperones, parents and the school office so that we are all in close contact throughout the trip.

F2 There are no phones in the dorm rooms, we will not know the residence hall phone number until we arrive there. I can be contacted via cell phone 24/7 at 708 466 3068.

F3 Chris Jasculcua sent out a brief press release in the community notes this week (after the state meet and announcing the teams that will go on to Worlds) and there has been information in the Mann School PTO Newsletter. Depending on results, this could be repeated after the Worlds event.

Requestor: Cristen Vincent 4/11/14