

Memorandum

To: Patty O'Neil
From: Larry Bidlack & Terry Bleau
Date: 4/5/2013
Re: Summer Academic Camps at the Middle Schools

This summer we plan to continue to offer the reading camp that we have done the last several years as well as the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) camp. As you are aware the reading camp is an invitation only camp open to all of the students who have participated in our reading interventions or have an IEP for reading. Last year was our first time offering the STEM camp to middle school students. Based on informal responses from the students and the staff, the STEM camp was very successful. It is our intention to offer that camp again this year with new activities for the students.

The following documents are attached to help provide information regarding these camps. Both of these camps are open to students in both middle schools and any numbers in these documents reflect campus numbers. As has been our practice, for this coming summer the camps are open only to the current 6th and 7th grade students.

- A brief summary of this year's STEM camp proposed activities as well as last year's activities
- A copy of the parent letter for the STEM camp
- A copy of the parent letter for the reading camp

We were very pleased with the number of participants in both camps last summer. The reading camp had 32 students participate with ten students participating in both sessions. This is a slight decrease from the previous year, but more students than the first two years of the camp. The STEM camp had 64 students participate between the two sessions. We are hopeful that this year we will have enough participants for three sessions through word of mouth from the students who participated last year.

We would like to begin advertising for these camps as soon as possible. As a result please submit these proposals to the school board if needed.

Summer STEM Camp – GMS 2013

The purpose of offering the STEM (Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Camp is to offer the students at the middle school level an educational, fun, and interactive camp experience in the summer. This camp is intended to be a self-funded science camp for one full week with the option of offering multiple sections of the same camp during the summer. Each camper will be charged \$75 for the week which is intended to cover the costs of materials and staff. The minimum number of campers in a session will be 25 with a maximum number of 35. This camp will be open to students entering 7th and 8th grade in the fall.

Last year's camp centered on three different themes with each day having activities related to the themes. The themes were:

- Sports Science (Biology and Physics)
- Local Ecology (Environmental Science and Earth Science)
- Solving Engineering Problems (Engineering, Physics, and Math)

The instructors, through feedback from working with the students, have determined that the structure of the camp last year resulted in students feeling rushed through their day from one activity to the next rather than being able to get deeper into the planned activities. It is for this reason that they are structuring each day with a new topic with multiple activities devoted to the topic. In addition, an "over-laying" technology-use project will allow participants to document the camp with video cameras and edit a final compilation that they can take with them. These offerings listed below allow students who participated last year to engage in brand new activities.

Day1: HELICOPTERS

- Intro to STEM: Engineering Plans and Problem Solving – Pipe Cleaner Towers & Triangles
- Intro to Rotary Flight & Lift: Balloon Helicopters
- Engineer It: Build, Test, Modify, Retest: Rubber Band Helicopters

Day 2: AIR POWER

- Problem: Reducing Friction: CD Hovercraft
- Engineering Wind Power: Land Yachts

Day 3: SUN POWER

- Intro to the Sun's Energy: Solar Tubes
- Engineering Solar Energy: Solar Cars

Day 4: ENGINEERING TO SOLVE A PROBLEM

- Intro: Cartesian Divers
- Problem: Pick It Up: Hydraulic Arm

Day 5: WATER POWER

- Measuring Height: Build and Use a Clinometer
- Blast-Off with Water Power!: Water Bottle Rockets

April 23, 2013

Dear Parent or Guardian,

This summer we are offering a unique summer camp opportunity at the middle school level. Our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) camp is an opportunity for students to have some fun with science and math over the summer vacation. Students will participate in a variety of activities centered on five main topics.

Day 1: HELICOPTERS

- Intro to STEM: Engineering Plans and Problem Solving – Pipe Cleaner Towers & Triangles
- Intro to Rotary Flight & Lift: Balloon Helicopters
- Engineer It: Build, Test, Modify, Retest: Rubber Band Helicopters

Day 2: AIR POWER

- Problem: Reducing Friction: CD Hovercraft
- Engineering Wind Power: Land Yachts

Day 3: SUN POWER

- Intro to the Sun's Energy: Solar Tubes
- Engineering Solar Energy: Solar Cars

Day 4: ENGINEERING TO SOLVE A PROBLEM

- Intro: Cartesian Divers
- Problem: Pick It Up: Hydraulic Arm

Day 5: WATER POWER

- Measuring Height: Build and Use a Clinometer
- Blast-Off with Water Power!: Water Bottle Rockets

The camp will be three hours each day from 9:00-12:00 for five consecutive days Monday-Friday. Depending on student interest we may run multiple weeks of the same camp. Please return the attached form with your preferences for the week your child would prefer to attend. The cost of the camp is \$75 per camper. The camp is open to all current 6th and 7th grade students at GMS North and South. The camp will be held at GMS South.

If you are interested in having your child participate in our STEM camp, please complete the attached form and return it with your payment to your school's main office by **Friday, May 10th**.

We are excited to offer this opportunity for your child and hope they will be able to join us! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 463-3600.

Sincerely,

Larry Bidlack & Terry Bleau

Principals GMS North and South

STEM CAMP ENROLLMENT FORM

Student Name _____ Grade completed this year _____

Parent Name _____

Contact Numbers _____

Summer Session Selection: Please rank your choices from first to last (1, 2, 3). If your student is unable to attend a specific week please mark an "X" to denote the conflict. The camp will only run if there are enough students for the sections selected.

June 10-14 _____

June 17-21 _____

August 5-9 _____

I understand that I will need to provide transportation to and from the STEM camp each day.

Parent Signature _____

April 23, 2013

Dear Parent or Guardian,

I would like to invite **child's name** to participate in our Reading Summer Success Program (RS²P)! RS²P is an extension of the reading support offered during the school year and is open to Geneva Middle School students only. The goal of this camp is to continue improving the reading ability of our students. A teacher will coordinate both individual and small group reading activities for the students. The students will have the opportunity to work with others or use computer based programs to enhance their reading skills.

Each summer session will be four weeks. The classes will meet on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for 90 minutes. The format of the classes will involve direct instruction on specific reading strategies and the application of reading strategies to the books chosen by the students.

We will be hosting two summer sessions. The dates for the first session are June 3-June 27. The dates for the second session are July 9-August 1. RS²P will meet at Geneva Middle School North three times each week on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. or 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Due to the availability of grant funding this year, there is no cost to participate in RS²P, however, space is limited.

If you are interested in having your child participate in our Summer Success Reading Program, please complete the form below and return it to your school's main office by **Friday, May 10th**.

We are excited to offer this opportunity for your child and hope they will be able to join us! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 463-3600.

Sincerely,

Larry Bidlack & Terry Bleau

Principals GMS North and South

Reading Summer Success Program (RS²P) Enrollment Form

Student Name _____

Grade completed _____

Parent Name _____

Contact Numbers _____

Summer Session Selection: (Circle one)

Session 1

Session 2

Sessions 1 and 2

June 3-June 27

July 9-August 1

Depending on enrollment, we may not be able to guarantee a specific timeslot. However, if you would like to express a preference, please do so below:

8:00 – 9:30

10:00 – 11:30

Either time is fine.

I understand that I will need to provide transportation to and from the Reading Summer Success Program at the assigned times.

Parent Signature _____