

APPROVE THE PARTICIPATION OF CANTER MIDDLE SCHOOL IN AN EDUCATIONAL TOUR TO THE YMCA CAMP MANITOU-LIN, MIDDLEVILLE, MI AND AUTHORIZE TRAVEL EXPENSES RELATED TO THE PROGRAM

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

The approval of the participation of seventy-five (75) Canter Middle School students in an educational tour to the YMCA Camp Manitou-Lin, Middleville MI from May 25-27, 2005 and authorize travel expenses related to the program if any.

USER: Canter Middle School
4959 S. Blackstone Ave
Chicago, IL 60615
773-535-1410
User: Dr. Carolyn D. Epps

PROGRAM: A three day environmental educational experience at Grand Rapids YMCA Camp Manitou-Lin in Middleville, Michigan.

EDUCATIONAL VALUE/OUTCOMES:

- Students will work cooperatively with others to accomplish a set goal in both competitive and non-competitive activities.
- Enhance students' understanding of potential environmental conditions that may affect the health of the local community.
- Further students' awareness of safety precautions in practical situations.

The environmental education component includes several classes that incorporate content from life and earth sciences. The classes and a brief description are listed below.

Insect Dissection: Students will delve into the external anatomy of a lubber grasshopper and find out what exactly makes an insect an insect. Students will be instructed in proper dissection techniques and then have the chance to dissect and identify the internal organs of the grasshopper.

Birding: Class will begin with a discussion of how birds have many different adaptations than humans. Students will learn how to attract and identify birds of this area. Students will then hike to areas where they are likely to see birds in action.

Populations: Students find out the natural checks and balances of populations in the woods as they discuss the limiting factors that can affect animals and humans. Through interactive lessons, students will discover how carrying capacity of an area fluctuates with the changing habitats.

The teambuilding activities encourage students to engage in positive communication, as they participate in games and activities that focus on the importance of practicing respectful, trustworthy, and responsible behaviors. The classes and a brief description are listed below.

Group Initiatives: An educational and exciting class where students are faced with a series of group challenges that require a combination of teams skills and individual commitment. Discussions on leadership, team effort and problem solving skills follow each activity. Our trained staff makes this class a great addition to any group that would like to work on team building.

Teams Course: Students in this class will venture through a series of challenges, which can only be accomplished when the group works as one. Teamwork, communication, trust, planning, and problem solving will all be necessary for the group to succeed. This is a follow up course to Group Initiatives.

Orienteering: This class teaches the basics of compass use. Students will learn about maps, pacing strategies, and basic calculations. Once comfortable, students will navigate a given course throughout camp or make a course for other students.

The Beast: This class demonstrates group communication and cooperation skills. Students are presented with a series of interactive activities focusing on the importance of effective communication. Then in small groups, students are given roles and they must work together to build the "beast."

Rock Climbing: Using either our outdoor tower or indoor wall, students will be instructed in safety techniques and equipped with harnesses and helmets. In the 'challenge by choice' activity, students will decide how far to push themselves.

High Ropes Course: The course is a series of obstacles, 25 feet in the air, designed to promote group cooperation and individual achievement. Students will navigate through the course with state of the art climbing gear while our trained staff and other students offer support.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS/TRIP INFORMATION: Arrangements for this program are being made by YMCA Camp Manitou-Lin, Phone Number 1-269-795-9163.

COST: The cost per pupil is \$175.00 which includes transportation by coach bus, meals lodging etc. The costs will be paid by students and money raised through fundraising activities, so that no pupil will be excluded for financial reasons. School chaperones are free.

CHAPERONES: Supervision of students will be provided for this program pursuant to Board Report 03-0527-PO01 (Policy on Student Travel), including proper ratio of students to adults. Traveling with the students will be: Mr. Emmanuel Ryan (teacher), Mr. Janak Paranjape (teacher), Mr. Ryan Schaben (teacher), Mrs. Hallie Askuvich, (teacher), Ms. Diann Weston (teacher), Ms. Akisha Russell (teacher), Ms. Denina Smith (parent), Ms. Kim Pettiford (parent), Mr. James Foreman (parent), Mrs. Edna Foreman (parent), Ms. Mary Vann (parent).

PARENTAL CONSENT: Written parental consent and release forms for each student are on file at Canter Middle School.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the President and Secretary to execute any travel agreements necessary for this program.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable.

LSC REVIEW: This action was approved by the LSC for Canter Middle School on January 11, 2005.

FINANCIAL: No cost to the Board.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

Inspector General-Each party to any agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105ILCS5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Chicago Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

Conflicts-Any agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105ILCS5/34-21.3, which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one-year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.


Contingent Liability-Any agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved for Consideration:



BARBARA EASON-WATKINS
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



ARNE DUNCAN
Chief Executive Officer

Noted:



JOHN MAIORCA
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form:



PATRICK J. ROCKS
General Counsel

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