



Union R-XI School District

Dear Parents,

The Union R-XI School District will again this summer be offering all K-8 students, free of charge, an exciting approach to learning called **Summer Journey**. Make no mistake about it; our summer program will be FUN for kids. Yet, our summer school program also provides an opportunity for students to experience over 60 hours of advanced academic preparation for the year ahead as well as to review and apply previously learned skills and knowledge. **Summer Journey's** extraordinary educational goals are comprised of academic courses with hands-on instruction centered in **reading, language arts, math, and social studies or science**. Other important fields of study are also available.

While the academic courses will be relaxed in format—no homework or tests for grades—**Summer Journey** will also offer courses for hands-on exploration and discovery. There will be many courses that provide experiences for enhanced learning opportunities which ultimately challenge students both creatively and academically. Be assured, we are offering courses for all age groups with an emphasis on fun learning and exploration.

In addition, if you are the parent of a child who will be entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2020, 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.

Finally, 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 achievement. At the end of the program, some lucky students will also win **Grand prizes** that will be awarded on the final day. In addition, **new** this year, all of our students who demonstrate outstanding attendance will be well rewarded with an **Attendance Recognition** ranging from \$50 for “near perfect” attendance to \$100 for “perfect attendance.”

Who should attend **Summer Journey**? Everyone. Simply put, it's good for kids. Look at the information enclosed. You'll be glad you did!

Sincerely,

Dr. Steve Weinhold
Superintendent

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the *Summer Journey* program?

The Union R-XI *Summer Journey* is the extended learning summer program operated by Union R-XI 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 Union R-XI *Summer Journey* operates daily beginning July 6 and ending on July 31, 2020, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Program Will Be Held At:

Beaufort Elementary K-5

Central Elementary K-5

Middle School 6-8

Dates could be changed based on the number of days missed due to inclement weather. 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 10 days enrolled in the program, followed by three different courses in the last 10 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 = \$100 gift card
- 1–7 hours missed = \$75 gift card
- 7–13 hours missed = \$50 gift card

Will breakfast and lunch be served each day?

Yes, the District has applied for a special state grant whereby ALL students would receive a free breakfast and lunch daily. In the event the grant is not approved, breakfast and lunch will be served using the same systems that are currently in place.

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

Simply fill out the enrollment form found online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UNIONRXISJ20>



Student Incentives

Attendance Incentives

Student incentives are dependent on attendance.

\$100 Shopping Card

Perfect attendance - 0 hours missed

\$75 Shopping Card

Up to 7 hours* missed

\$50 Shopping Card

Over 7 hours, up to 14 hours* missed

* 7 hours is the equivalent of one day missed.

* 14 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.

Union R-XI Summer Journey™ Course Offerings

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)

Adventures in My Own Backyard

Kindergarten “explorers” respond with fascination and wonder as they explore habitats typically found in their own backyard. Multi-sensory activities are used extensively, providing opportunities for meaningful engagement with the learning process. Students’ knowledge of the natural world is fostered along with concepts such as color and shape recognition, fine-motor development, phonemic awareness, and counting and sorting. This unit offers multi-level activities and is appropriate for districts with a wide variance in student population, including children with little or no previous school experience.

Kamp Kindergarten

In the afternoon portion of the Kindergarten day, students unpack their sleeping bags for a quiet time as they listen to nature sounds and engage in physical movement activities focused around the theme of camping. Students develop cooperation skills as they investigate manipulatives and games during Backpack Explorations. From creating s’mores to sharing campfire stories, young campers enjoy their stay at Kamp Kindergarten.

Primary

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

Stacking Madness Primary	Field Day Primary
Summer Seus	Yoga-cize
Plants & Seeds	Magic Show

Elementary

(students entering grades 4 & 5 in the Fall)

Flights & Aerodynamics	Sports Clip Junior
Snack Attack	Music to Our Ears
To Games & Beyond	Claymation

Intermediate

(students entering grades 6–8 in the Fall)

Structural Design	Classroom Cooks
All for One	Tech Lab
Local Action	Mixed Media

Union R-XI

Enrollment Information Enclosed

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