



## Macon County R-I School District

Dear Parents,

Once again our school district will offer all 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 2023, 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. And, as in past years, 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. Brent Hodge*

**Dr. Brent Hodge**  
Superintendent

## Frequently Asked Questions

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

The Macon County R-I *Summer Journey* is the extended learning summer program operated by Macon County 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 Macon County R-I *Summer Journey* program operates daily from 8:00AM to 3:30PM on May 25, to June 28, 2023. The program will be held at Macon Elementary (K-5) and Macon Middle School (6-8).

### **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 = \$100 gift card
- Up to 7 hours missed = \$75 gift card
- Over 7 hours, up to 14 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 free breakfast and lunch daily. In the event the grant is not approved, lunch will be served using the same systems that are currently in place.

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

Complete the online enrollment form found on the district website.



## 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*<sup>™</sup> program.

### Daily Incentives

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

# Macon County 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)

### 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.

### Camp K

In the afternoon portion of the Kindergarten day, students head to their campsite for quiet time as they rest and listen to the sounds of nature. Then they hit the trail to explore concepts about camping and nature through theme-related and physical movement activities. During Backpack Activity Stations, students develop cooperation skills as they investigate manipulatives and create art. From examining wildlife tracks to sharing campfire stories, young campers enjoy their adventures at Camp K.

## Primary

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

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sports Science         | Stacking Madness Primary |
| Summer Seuss           | Summer Sizzler           |
| Unleash Your Wild Side | Launch Into Rockets      |

## Elementary

(students entering grades 4 & 5 in the Fall)

|                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Local Action           | BrickLAB Famous Architecture |
| DaVinci Camp           | Sports Clip Junior           |
| Daily Challenge Junior | Retro Recreation             |

## Intermediate

(students entering grades 6–8 in the Fall)

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Game Show!       | Podcasting   |
| All for One      | Local Action |
| Sports Clip Plus | Rockets Plus |

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## Macon County R-I

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***Changes will be announced.***