



Nixa School District

Dear Parents,

This summer, our school district will offer all students, free of charge, a fun, exciting, and academic approach to learning called **Summer Journey**. Make no mistake about it. Not only will our summer program be FUN for kids, it will also provide an opportunity for students to experience over 60 hours of academics during the summer months. This academic time will give students the chance to review and apply previously learned skills and knowledge as well as prepare for the school year ahead. **Summer Journey's** extraordinary educational goals are comprised of academic courses with hands-on instruction centered in **reading, language arts, math, social studies, and science**. Other 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. **Summer Journey** courses will include a physical education course where students keep busy with a variety of air challenges, and a course where students get to engage in STEM based experiments based on a pirate's life. Other courses that are being offered include *Oceanic Explorations*, designed to introduce students to the physical and geological sciences that underpin all ocean life and *Podcasting*, designed to give students the opportunity to explore production team roles as they create their own podcasts. These are only a few of the courses that may be offered.

If you are the parent of a child who will be entering Kindergarten in fall 2023, I strongly encourage you to consider enrolling your child in **Summer Journey**. We have noticed that when these young 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, **Summer Journey** offers an enticing incentive program for students. At the end of the program, some lucky students will also win **Grand Prizes**, which will be awarded on the final day. And, as in past years, all of our students who demonstrate outstanding attendance will be rewarded with **Attendance Recognition** gift cards, 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. Gearl Loden
Superintendent

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the *Summer Journey* program?

The Nixa *Summer Journey* is the extended learning summer program operated by Nixa 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?

Nixa *Summer Journey* operates daily from 7:45am to 2:35pm (elementary) and 7:30am to 2:20pm (intermediate) from June 1 through June 27, 2023. It will be held at:

Century Elementary (K-4)

Espy Elementary (K-4)

High Pointe Elementary (K-4)

Mathews Elementary (K-4)

Inman Intermediate (5-6)

Summit Intermediate (5-6)

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. Transportation is not provided for incoming kindergarten students.

What will my child(ren) do each day?

In the morning, Elementary and Intermediate 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 two fun-filled courses for the first 10 days enrolled in the program, followed by two different courses in the last 9 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:

- Perfect attendance = \$100 gift card
- Up to one day missed = \$75 gift card
- Up to two days missed = \$50 gift card

Will breakfast and lunch be served each day?

Yes, students will be served lunches using the same systems used during the regular school term. As a result, students should plan to purchase meals (or bring lunch) in the same way they do during the regular school year.

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

All current families will receive a registration link through the Powerschool Parent Portal. All other students can register at the following link: <https://nixa.red/summerschoolregistration>



Student Incentives

Attendance Incentives

Student incentives are dependent on attendance.

\$100 Shopping Card

Perfect attendance

\$75 Shopping Card

Up to one day missed

\$50 Shopping Card

Over one day, up to 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.

Weekly Incentives

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

Nixa 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 four *Journey* courses.

Kindergarten

(students entering K in the Fall)

Road Trip

Pack your bags for an exciting adventure! Kindergarten students are off on a Kindergarten Road Trip as they visit exciting places during the afternoon portion of the Summer Journey program. After daily quiet time at the rest stop, students will enjoy theme-related activities while traveling to places they explore in engaging read-aloud books. Next, students will rev up their engines as they engage in gross motor play. Last stop is a visit to each destination's activity stations, where students will engage in purposeful play. Summer fun destinations include going fishin', visiting an amusement park, and heading to the beach. From taking a ride on a classroom roller coaster to sailing on the ocean waves, this trip is sure to be a dream vacation!

Primary

(students entering grades 1, 2, 3 in the Fall) Air Time
Pirate Camp Plants & Seeds
BrickLAB: Magic Beans

Elementary

(students entering grades 4 & 5 in the Fall) Oceanic Explorations
Retro Recreation DaVinci Camp
Strings & Beads

Intermediate

(students entering grades 6-8 in the Fall) 60 Seconds or Less
Game Show! Summer Camp Classics
Podcasting

Nixa School District *Enrollment Information Enclosed*

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**Century Elementary (K-4), Espy Elementary (K-4), High Pointe Elementary (K-4),
Matthews Elementary (K-4), Summit Intermediate (5-6) and Inman Intermediate (5-6)**
Changes will be announced.