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 2022, 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. Students will be able to earn **Attendance Recognition** incentives based on their daily attendance, $5 for each complete day of attendance, up to $100.

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. Scott Hayes
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 June 2 and ending on June 29, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
The Program Will Be Held At:
Beaufort Elementary K-5
Central Elementary K-5
Prairie Dell Elementary K-5
Union 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 11 days enrolled in the program, followed by three different courses in the last 11 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 an Attendance Incentives based on full days of attendance in the program. Students are able to earn $5/day, up to $100. This incentive will be mailed to students approximately three weeks after the program ends.

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 in the front pocket of this brochure and return it to your child's school.

Student Incentives

Attendance Incentives

Student incentives are dependent on attendance.

Each **full** day of attendance earns students $5. Students may earn up to $100. Students will be mailed a pre-paid debit card approximately three weeks after the *Summer Journey™* program ends. These cards can be used in the local stores, malls, or restaurants where credit cards are accepted.

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)

Kids at Work

"Work" is fun in the four-weekly mini units Dinosaur Bones, Pat-A-Cake, At the Pet Shop, and Detectives for Hire. Students build on prior knowledge as they learn about a variety of careers. Each activity is designed to foster early learning concepts, such as letter and sound recognition, phonemic awareness, measurement, counting, and shape recognition. Thematic centers and literature-based math activities complete the morning. From digging for fossils to tracking down missing letters, this unit offers multi-level activities appropriate for all early learners.

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)

Dirt Camp
Field Day Primary
Pirate Camp
Summer Seuss
Unleash Your Wild Side
Yoga-cize

Elementary

(students entering grades 4 & 5 in the Fall)

Art With an Aptitude
Daily Challenge Junior
Oceanic Explorations
Retro Recreation
Rockets Junior
To Games & Beyond

Intermediate

(students entering grades 6–8 in the Fall)

3-D Art Camp
60 Seconds or Less
All for One
Classroom Cooks
Ground Drones
Summer Camp Classics

Union R-XI
Enrollment Information Enclosed

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Changes will be announced.

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