Three-day Summer Course for Teens
Learning About and Building a Computer
Last Session - August 4-6, Portola Valley

After a successful two sessions earlier this summer, I am offering a final session for your tech enthusiast. This short, three-day course will educate your teen on how a computer works and build one for himself/herself, while learning some valuable project management skills.

Students will learn…
- **How to plan a project, from start to finish, including budget**. This will probably be one of their first large projects, and it is important to know how the process works for future endeavors.
- **How to troubleshoot technology**. While technology is extremely powerful, it can also be very frustrating and complicated. It's important to know how to problem solve and deal with frustration in a calm and timely manner.
- How to safely and carefully handle computer parts and tools.
- How a central processing unit, a graphics processing unit, random access memory, motherboard, and storage drives, both traditional hard drive and solid state, interact together with the motherboard to form a functioning computer.

Dates and schedule: Last session August 4-August 6. Maximum of **10** students. Daily schedule: 9:00 a.m. - 3**:**00 p.m., 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Tentative schedule is outlined below.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
- Introduction to the course-what they will learn and do - Explanation of a computer from a macro perspective - Explanation of the specific parts of a computer - Planning their project, including budget for a presentation	- Trip to Fry's Electronics (Palo Alto), where they will buy components.* - Safety precautions and advice specific to computers - Building begins!	- Building completes! - Discussion about software, computer safety, and backing up data - Install software...computers are done! - Learn about advanced topics such as overclocking, benchmarking

*Transportation will be provided by me and a Seidl parent, or we can meet you there. If students decide to buy components online in advance, they will come along for the learning experience.

Costs: This three-day course is $285. If your child builds a computer, expect to pay $475+(this includes mouse, keyboard,high resolution monitor, wifi!) for the computer. For example, a $450-build *functions* as a computer and can perform everyday tasks at an acceptable level, while a $1000-build performs extremely well during intensive tasks such as video/photo

editing or gaming. In earlier sessions, average cost that students spent was about $700. Students should come home on the third day with a new, fully functioning computer.

Requirements: Student must be at least an 8th grader, be able to work independently, and enthusiastic about technology. Please watch this video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRmPTbGBqVI before the first day of the course.

Teacher bio: My name is Nick Seidl, a former Corte Madera School student and a senior at Menlo School. I have always loved technology, taking advanced courses in computer science, math, and engineering, while enthusiastically pursuing a hobby in digital photography. I have helped build dozens of computers and regularly consult with the technology needs (iPad, laptop, desktop computer) of seniors at the Sequoias in Portola Valley. I taught a similar course at Menlo this April, as well as the first two sessions of this course in July. I am also available on a personal consulting basis.

Contact: If you have questions or need more information, feel free to email me at nicholasseidl@gmail.com. Space is limited. Contact me with your interest as soon as you can.