



Polo R-VII School District

Dear Parents & Guardians,

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, but 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** academic roots are instruction centered in **reading, language arts, math, and social studies or 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. Lessons may include a rocket class, where students learn the basic principles of flight as they construct and fly real rockets, or a cooking course, where they learn basic cooking techniques. Other courses that may be offered include *Simple Machines Camp*, designed to introduce students to elements of engineering, live well, and *Lifetime Sports*, designed to develop the body and encourage a lifetime of fitness. These are only a sample of the courses that may be offered.

If you are the parent of a child who will be entering Kindergarten in fall 2024, 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. Students will be eligible to receive **daily** rewards if they come to school, exhibit a positive attitude and behavior, and work to improve their achievement. 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 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,

Mr. Kyle T. Ross
Superintendent

Polo R-VII School District 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 designated blocks of time, enabling each student to participate in every Journey course.

Summer Journey Location(s):

- Polo Elementary (K-6)
- Polo Middle (7-8)

Kindergarten (Students Entering K)

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 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grade)

Journey Courses

Yoga-cize	Nature with a Twist	Magic Show
The Science of Super Powers	Launch Into Rockets	Dirt Camp

Elementary (Students Entering 4th-5th Grade)

Journey Courses

Daily Challenge Junior	BrickLAB Build a Better World	Strings & Beads
Flight & Aerodynamics	To Games & Beyond	Lifetime Sports Junior

Intermediate (Students Entering 6th-8th and/or 9th Grade)

Journey Courses

Influencers Camp	Survivor Camp	Eggs-traordinary Physics
60 Seconds or Less	Game Show!	Podcasting

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Summer Journey program?

The Polo R-VII School District Summer Journey is an extended learning summer program operated by Polo R-VII School District and Catapult Learning 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 Polo R-VII School District Summer Journey operates daily May 28 - June 25 from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, five days per week*. School will not be in session on June 19th in observance of Juneteenth.

**Dates may change 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 to receive credit for the Summer Journey program?

No. We understand 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, Summer Journey students attend engaging 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 a variety of fun-filled courses that rotate for those enrolled in the program.

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
- Over One Day, Up To Two Days Missed = \$50 gift card

Will breakfast and lunch be served every day?

Yes, breakfast and lunch will be served daily.

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.

Catapult Learning



STUDENT INCENTIVES

Attendance

Student incentives are dependent on actual full-day attendance in the Summer Journey program.

\$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.

Daily Incentives

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

Polo R-VII School District Enrollment Information Enclosed

Polo R-VII School District Summer Journey operates five days per week, May 28-June 25, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM with no school on June 19th. Changes will be announced.

Don't Delay—Enroll NOW in this FREE Program!



I. Student Information - (please print)

Please use **student's legal name** and **current year school** information

Date: _____

First Name: _____

Middle Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Current Grade Level: _____

Student Address (include physical address if using P.O. Box for mail):

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent/ Guardian: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Emergency Phone: _____

Emergency Cell Phone: _____

Ethnicity: (circle one) Asian/Pacific Islander American Indian
Black Caucasian Hispanic

Gender: (circle one) Male Female

Birth Date: _____

Bus Route: _____

Bus Stop: _____ Bus Time: _____

Current School: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

II. Transportation

Bus Transportation

Will your child be riding the bus? Yes _____ No _____

Transportation Address (if different from above):

Other Transportation

Walk _____ Car _____ Picked up by: _____

Daycare: _____

Other: _____

III. Health Information

Health problems or concerns: Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please describe: _____

Is your child currently taking medication at school?

Yes _____ No _____

Name of Drug(s): _____

Is your child allergic to anything? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please identify: _____

Will your child need medication during Summer Journey?

Yes* _____ No _____

Name of Drug: _____

*if yes, child must have a medical form on site.

Name and phone number of physician(s):

Hospital Preference: _____

In case of accident or serious illness, I request school personnel to contact me, alternate authorized persons, or the named physician. If it is impossible to contact me, authorized persons, or the physician, the school personnel may make emergency arrangements as necessary to care for my child. Yes _____ No _____

IV. Photo Release

I will allow any pictures taken of my child during participation in Summer Journey to be used for advertising and promotional purposes. Yes _____ No _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Date: _____