

Frequently Asked Questions

How will I know if my child has been accepted?

You will receive an Email.

How will I know if you have received my monies AND notarized form?

You will receive an Email.

Online SchoolPay won't work?

If you are having, difficulties accessing SchoolPay try using a different browser such as Chrome, Firefox, etc.

Can I get a receipt for my taxes?

Yes, please provide your child's full name, grade level and session attended to our email address. Allow 2 weeks for processing. We only provide receipts for the current year. So, a 2021 receipt must be requested before the end of the year.

What if my 6th grade student forgets their YMCA waiver?

The instructor will attempt to phone you for verbal permission to sign the waiver. If you cannot be reached then the student must sit out of the YMCA activities.

Why do you charge a late fee?

The organization of over 900 students with equipment requires great preparations. Late applications require additional work on our part. The accumulation of late fees provide scholarships for students that received assistance from our district.

Will students be CPR certified?

Students receive "hands only" CPR training and basic first aid. There is not enough class time to complete the state requirements for a certification. Contact your local Red Cross.

Why will you not place students with friends or change homerooms?

The organization of over 900 students with equipment requires great preparations. Additionally, one of the many benefits from our program is to meet new friends.

What if my child is ill during a field trip?

We will contact all numbers on the application to see if you would like to pick your student up onsite or at Gamble Rogers Middle School.

Why does my child have to get their tennis shoes wet/why can't they wear water shoes?

Many locations require students to stand in water where the bottom is not clearly visible. The best protection for feet is a thick rubber sole like that on a regular tennis/running style shoe. A water shoe does not provide protection from large items such as oysters or fishhooks.

Why does my child have to wear a shirt in the water?

Many locations are public places; wearing the blue shirts helps us quickly identify our students. For this reason, it is consider a safety issue.

*Send your child in a swim suit under their clothes even on the first day.

Are non-SJCSD students allowed to attend the program?

Yes, we encourage any student currently in grades 5-7 to submit a pre-application. We have many homeschooled and out of state students attend each year.

What if my child forgets their lunch?

If we realize before the student has left GRMS a bag of prepacked crackers, granola bars, etc will be put together for your child to get once we have confirmed there are no food allergies. If the student is out in the field, we will have a field coordinator deliver food to the student. All instructors have water in the field.

Did my child have to attend as a 6th grader in order to perform the tasks as a 7th grader?

No, instructions are provided daily for each task. Student's abilities are assessed to help them have a safe fun day.

Why don't you take daily pictures and post online?

We encourage students to "be in the moment" rather than viewing their experience through a phone camera. We do have someone take various pictures that will be compiled for the promotional video. Posting daily is not realistic due to the volume of students in the program.

Do you have a lost and found?

Yes, we often make announcements at the end of the day to check the lost and found. Items left at the end of each session will be donated.

Why is the program so expensive?

At \$53 per day, the cost is very reasonable considering all that your student receives: transportation close to your home, daily equipment (canoe, kayak, snorkel gear, surf board, etc), transportation to the field site, entrance fees into parks, SJCSD employed instructors. For example, 3 hours canoe rental is \$50 or sailing lessons at \$55 or just 1.5 hours of surf lessons at \$75 plus park entrance \$7 and your own transportation total more than the cost of our program per day.

How will you reach me if the program closes for a day due to weather?

Please sign up for our remind.com text alerts. Directions are in the final application parent letter. In the event buses are delayed or there is a weather cancellation day, you will be texted as soon as possible.

Transportation Questions

- Please send your student **on the bus the first day, if you wish to use our transportation.**
- Car riders arrive **no earlier than 8:15am.**
- **Be patient the first two days of each session** as buses may be late while students learn our dismissal procedure.