

## **8th grade Experience: Camping Trip 2020**

**Who?** NEMS eighth grade students, staff, nurse, administration and parent chaperones

**What?** A two day cooperative learning adventure where students work together through team building, confidence activities, environmental studies and more.

**Where?** South Mountain YMCA; Camp Weiser; 201 Cushion Peak Rd, Reinholds, PA 17569  
(610) 670-2267; <http://www.smymca.org/>

**When?** Thursday, September 17 - Friday, September 18  
Please have students at the school by 6:45am for a 7:00 departure  
Students should arrive home around 7:30/8:00 on Friday  
Students ride charter busses with bathroom to and from the camp  
Transportation to and from the school is **not** provided

**How much does it cost?** The trip is \$150. Payments should be made before the trip. **Financial concerns should be addressed through our guidance department.** Payments can be given to Mrs. Quattrone. All payments should be made by the week of the trip. Checks should be made out to NEMS Student Activities.

**What are the sleeping arrangements?**

Cabins are separated by boys/girls. Each cabin has at least one or more chaperones. Bathhouses are located within each group of cabins.

**What activities are planned?** Climbing tower, team building, fishing, archery, obstacle course, hayride/hike, animal show, dance. Activities may be changed or altered pending weather and availability.

**How are medical needs met?** We provide our own nurse who is able to distribute medications.

Please note each medication must be given to the nurse prior to the trip with the appropriate medication form completed by a doctor (for form see Middle School website, "For Parents" tab, "Camping Trip"). This includes tylenol/pain and allergy medications. **Please label all medication and put in brown or ziplock bag and give to the nurse by the end of the school day on Wednesday, September 16th.**

**How is the food?** That's a personal preference; however, there are multiple options so there is something available to eat. Each meal is served family style with second helpings available. Juice/milk and water is available at every meal. Lunch and dinner also has a salad bar. There are cereal/fruit/yogurt options available at breakfast. Students take turns setting/serving and clearing each meal. All students **MUST** attend meals and sit at assigned tables.

**What if my child doesn't go?** Students on the trip are considered present for the school day.

Students who do not go on the trip must attend school and will be put on an alternate schedule with alternate activities. Students who do not go on the trip and do not attend school will be marked absent. ***If you/your child is feeling anxiety about the trip, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our guidance department!***

### What do I bring?

- all sleeping gear (sleeping bag/pillow or blankets/pillow for a twin bed). Can be in a separate bag/garbage bag. Please label bag(s)
- shower toiletries, and shower shoes; TOWELS; additional toiletries
- pajamas for one night
- Change of clothing/layering for Thursday and clothing for Friday (Please check weather and plan accordingly. We recommend layering.)
- extra shoes in case shoes get wet
- Cabins are not locked. Valuables/cell phones are allowed but at your own risk. There are outlets/electricity in cabins; Carrying cell phones is allowed but using them during activities for anything other than videos and pictures is not permitted.
- Flashlight, bug spray/sunscreen
- Water bottle- can be refilled
- No fishing gear.
- Carryon bag for bus. All overnight and sleeping bags will be stored UNDER your child's assigned bus

**What should I do as a chaperone?** Please note your interest on becoming a chaperone on the student interest form handed out in February. Parent chaperones will be chosen based on level of need and random selection. Parent chaperones will be notified and approved by the Board of Education in April. From there, it is the parent's responsibility to follow up with NJ State requirements for criminal background clearance. All clearance must be done by the end of August. Chaperones will be placed on child's bus, in the learning group and lunch table, and in the same cabin (if same sex) unless other requests are made to Mrs. Quattrone at least two weeks prior to the trip. On the trip, you are responsible to take attendance of tables, groups, and cabins, escort students to and from activities, monitor behavior, etc. Similar to the students, your attendance at activities and meals is mandatory. **ALL PARENT CHAPERONES WILL BE CHOSEN AND NOTIFIED IN APRIL 2020.**

**When will my child know his/her group, cabin, etc?** Your child will be assigned a group and table with other eighth graders. Busses are assigned by homerooms. Your child is allowed to choose one friend to partner with in his/her cabin. Cabins are made from these partners around the second week of school. Your child will receive a packet with all this information to review the day before the trip. Packets are recollected, then distributed as your child boards the bus. Social concerns should be addressed with our guidance department up to two weeks prior to the trip.

### Helpful hints:

- All back to school forms/camping forms and medication forms must be completed before the trip. Most forms are available online <http://www.newegypt.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=11> under "For Parents" tab, Camping Trip
- Label your child's belongings
- Pack light. Your child is responsible for carrying all his/her bags along trails to cabins.
- Check the weather when packing; Store food in resealable bags

### Contact:

- For general questions- Mrs. Quattrone: [quattronec@newegypt.us](mailto:quattronec@newegypt.us)
- For monetary and social concerns- Mrs. Belfiore ([BelfioreN@newegypt.us](mailto:BelfioreN@newegypt.us). - last names A-L) or Mrs. DeMarco ([DeMarcoA@newegypt.us](mailto:DeMarcoA@newegypt.us) - last names M-Z)