



## Dexter 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,

**Mrs. Amy James**  
Superintendent

# Dexter 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):

- Southwest Elementary School (K-2)
- Central Elementary School (3-5)
- TS Hill Middle School (6-8)

## Kindergarten (Students Entering K)

### **Adventures in My Own Backyard**

*Kindergarten “explorers” respond with fascination and wonder as they explore habitats typically found in their own backyard. Multi-sensory activities are used extensively, providing opportunities for meaningful engagement with the learning process. Students’ knowledge of the natural world is fostered along with concepts such as color and shape recognition, finemotor development, phonemic awareness, and counting and sorting. This unit offers multi-level activities and is appropriate for districts with a wide variance in student population, including children with little or no previous school experience.*

### **BrickLAB STEAMventures**

*BrickLAB STEAMventures offers immersive hands-on activities that ignite young minds. Through exciting adventures exploring flight, transportation and food, learners build essential skills like counting, coloring and working as part of a team. This program fosters curiosity and creativity while introducing the core principles of science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics. BrickLAB STEAMventures inspires young learners on their educational journey with engaging and collaborative STEAM experiences.*

## Primary (Students Entering 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grade)

### Journey Courses

Launch Into Rockets	Lifetime Sports Primary	The Science of Super Powers
BrickLAB: Brain Builders	Summer Sizzler	Pirate Camp

## Elementary (Students Entering 4th-5th Grade)

### Journey Courses

Cosmic Coders	Snack Attack	Retro Recreation
BrickLAB: Famous Architecture	Traveling Artist	DaVinci Camp

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

### Journey Courses

Drone Designers	Classroom Cooks	Flying Disc Camp
Just Golf	3-D Art	Survivor Camp

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **What is the Summer Journey program?**

The Dexter School District Summer Journey is an extended learning summer program operated by Dexter 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 Dexter School District Summer Journey operates daily from 7:30 AM to 2:00 PM. The program will run five days per week, May 30, 2024 through June 26, 2024\*.

*\*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, 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?**

Visit our online enrollment form using this URL or by scanning the code below:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdO-UHieiw0qA\\_va5xEpmDe3XXB7JoaofVE3ratZOfpFJ9uug/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdO-UHieiw0qA_va5xEpmDe3XXB7JoaofVE3ratZOfpFJ9uug/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0)



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.

### Dexter School District

#### Enrollment Information Enclosed

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