

August 11, 2022

Dear Parents / Guardians:

We're excited your child is scheduled to attend Camp KEEP this year. Camp KEEP offers an exciting opportunity to learn about science in a nature-based outdoor setting. It is a learning experience like no other.

After living through a pandemic, we know you are eager to return your child to hands-on learning experiences while maintaining their safety. You may have questions about COVID-19 precautions at KEEP. We hope this information addresses any concerns.

All KEEP policies are aligned with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). The CDC recommends children 2 and older be vaccinated. Full details can be viewed in the Camp KEEP COVID Prevention Guidelines which is available on our website at www.campkeep.org.

Our safety protocols to fight COVID-19 begin before your child leaves for camp. Before departure to KEEP, all participants are required to complete a negative antigen test certified at their school campus. Additionally, all participants will submit a health screening form completed by their parent within 24 hours of departure. The questions ask about potential exposures and symptoms during the last 10 days. Finally, temperatures will be taken. Individuals with a temperature of 100.4 or above, exposures, or related symptoms in the last 10 days will not be able to board the bus.

While in transit to and from camp, masks are highly recommended. Students and chaperones should be placed in cabin groups at school and seated in these groups on the bus. This protocol will help limit potential exposure.

While at camp, students will remain in their cabin groups while dining. Meals will be eaten outdoors when weather allows. At bedtime, student heads will alternate in directions so that 6 feet of distance is maintained. Windows will remain open when weather allows to improve ventilation. Hike groups are created by combining 2-3 cabin groups into a stable learning cohort. Masks are highly recommended in all indoor settings (except eating, sleeping, & bathing) and in close quarters outdoors (such as campfire seating).

While at camp, daily health checks will be conducted by cabin chaperones. Individuals with any COVID-19 symptoms will be immediately quarantined. If parents have signed the "Antigen Testing Consent Form," KEEP staff will utilize a "test to stay" policy. Individuals with positive results, or those without permission to test, will be picked up by their families.

Specific protocols for facility cleaning and personal hygiene have been established, reviewed, and approved by the local health department. Handwashing & sanitizing will occur frequently throughout the day.

Camp staff will review all safety rules when students arrive. While no one can eliminate the potential impact of COVID-19, we have taken great care to reduce the potential exposure to our campers. Our goal is to provide a healthy and safe experience for all.

If you have any specific concerns regarding this year's Camp KEEP, please contact me directly at 661-636-4629.

Sincerely,

Desiree Von Flue
Assistant Superintendent of Education Services, KCSOS

