

explore!

David Harrison Elementary

3055 W. Kildee Lane
Springfield, MO 65810
523-5800



April, 2018

Hello Parents!

It is with great enthusiasm that I am writing this letter in regards to the Explore experience that your child will encounter in June! My name is Chris Parker and I am beyond excited to be your child's principal at David Harrison for Session 1. I am no stranger to Springfield Public Schools. I've been in education for over 30 years and 26 of those have been in Springfield Public Schools. I've taught grades 1, 4, 5 and 6 and I've been an administrator at Jarrett Middle, Sherwood Elementary, Wanda Gray Elementary, and David Harrison Elementary. I earned my Bachelor's Degree at the University of Nebraska and my Master's and Specialist's Degrees at Missouri State. When I'm not working, you can find me on Table Rock Lake where I enjoy fishing, swimming, and boating. I'm an avid runner and enjoy traveling to warm destinations.

Explore will begin on Tuesday, June 5th and will continue five days a week until Friday, June 29th. Front doors will remain locked until 8:30 a.m. Students will then report to the cafeteria until dismissal to classrooms @ 8:40 a.m. Instruction will start promptly at 8:50 a.m. and end at 3:20 p.m. Free breakfast will be available at 8:35 a.m.

Students may choose to attend any Explore location if they provide their own transportation. Call 417-523-0500, 417-523-0011 or 417-523-0005 for transportation questions. Here's a map that will show bus eligibility:

[District-wide elementary school transportation eligibility map.](#)

Both breakfast and lunch will be served during Explore at no cost. SPARC will be available for a fee both before and after school. You can drop your child off as early as 6:30 a.m. and pick up is by 6:30 p.m. Having good attendance is extremely important during Explore. There are many activities and experiences to take part in, and we want to make sure your child doesn't miss out. Your efforts in making sure your child is here everyday is very much appreciated!

Demonstrating good behavior is also an expectation during Explore. Student misbehaviors will be addressed in a proactive manner using principles of positive behavior interventions. Explore Coordinators will review instances with students having repeated inappropriate behaviors. At the Explore Coordinators' discretion, students with repeated inappropriate behavior may be dropped from the program.

Students are encouraged to bring their leftover supplies from this past school year to Explore. Supplies your child may bring include: pencils, a notebook, crayons, a folder, glue and scissors.

If your child requires medication to be taken during school hours, please contact our school nurse for the proper paperwork to be completed.

Explore classes at Harrison include the following:

[WONDERFUL ME! \(KINDERGARTEN; STUDENT MUST TURN 5 BEFORE AUG. 1, 2015\)](#)

Your child is special and has unique gifts and talents. Students will play and explore each of the five senses and focus on what makes them wonderful. These experiences will help them learn how to learn and become ready for kindergarten. (Contact Parents as Teachers, 523-1160, to schedule a kindergarten screening prior to June 1.)

[SUPERHERO CAMP \(GRADE 1\)](#)

Not all superheroes wear capes! But they are brave, solve problems, and make the world a better place. Students will create comics, videos, and costumes featuring a superhero solving a problem of their choosing.

[GOING FOR GOLD \(GRADE 2-3\)](#)

Do you want to know what it takes to be an Olympic champion? Exploring sports activities, field trips, and your favorite summer and winter Olympic events will unleash your inner Olympian.

[INTO THE WILD \(GRADE 2-3\)](#)

Come explore where the wild things are! Put on your safari hat as we travel to observe animals in their habitats. Students will direct an animated movie, go on virtual field trips and discover ways to help animals.

SURVIVOR (GRADE 4-5)

Survival in the wilderness requires will and skill! You must find food and water, build a shelter and navigate your way. Do you have what it takes to survive, thrive and make it back to civilization? Test your skills during this four week challenge with experiences at local conservation areas.

CYBER SQUAD (GRADE 4-5)

Do you like exploring new technology tools to help you learn? Would you like to be the "go to" technology person in your classroom? Become a techie for your school and team up with your teacher to help other students learn technological skills and assist them with their PBL presentations and video creations.

I look forward to meeting you in June for Explore! Class lists will be posted on the cafeteria doors and front doors so you'll know who your child's teacher is. Until then, enjoy these last few weeks of the 2017-18 school year! ☺

Respectfully,

Chris Parker
Explore Session 1 Principal
Harrison Elementary