
MS 447 6th Grade Annual Camp Bernie Trip

Overview Information

Where:

YMCA Camp Bernie

327 Turkey Top Rd, Port Murray, NJ 07865

When:

Thursday, November 14th - please arrive at 345 Dean Street by 7:30

Friday, November 15th - please pick up your student at 345 Dean Street by 4:00

(This is approximate and kids will have phones to update if we hit traffic if your student does not have a phone, we will send a parent blast)

Why:

Camp Bernie is an opportunity for our 6th graders to get to know each other, to build community and friendships across 6th grade and really come together as a school family

What:

Students will participate in team building activities, ropes course activities, and arts and crafts activities

Activities for Students

There is a range of activities that Camp Bernie offers. Although our schedule is not finalized, students may be able to participate in the following:

ASE - Team Building Activities

Climbing

Giant Swing

Candle Making

Apple Cidering

Pond Swing

Ziplining

**Although students do not pick, each group will have a combination of “high intensity” and “low intensity” activities

Students do have the option to participate as an observer if they do not feel comfortable with the activity

**There will be NO water activities

Groupings for Students

Bus Group

Learning Group

Cabin Group

Meal Group

How will my child be grouped?

The purpose of Camp Bernie is for students to get to know each other better. To do that students have the above groups with various students in them.

What are the sleeping arrangements? Is it co-ed?

No, students will be assigned cabins based on their gender identity

What if my child is non-binary?

Please reach out to Asia Stanislaus and Stacey Billups so that we can support your student

Phone Policy

Students are able to use their phones on the bus to and from Camp Bernie. They should bring headphones for any audio

When we arrive at Camp Bernie, we will be putting the phones in the Yondr pouches until we leave to come home the next day

We are committed to using our Camp Bernie trip as an opportunity to build an educational and social environment that optimizes our interactions, relationships, and community.

We have had successful overnight trips while using our Yondr system and in the event of an emergency every cabin will have an unlocking magnet

Chaperones and Adult Supervision

- Each learning group has at least two adults and a Camp Bernie staff member
- Cabin sizes differ and smaller cabins have at least two adults in them, larger cabins have between 4 and 10 adults
- Each bus has at least 5 adults

We love parent chaperones. If you are interested in chaperoning, either indicate it on your student's Camp Bernie paperwork or email Asia Stanislaus at Astanislaus@ms447.org

Please Note:

There are Chaperone Guidelines to follow

Only Student Guardians

All Chaperones have to pay full price

Nurse and Medication

Overnight DOE Nurse for our Camp Bernie trip is pending. There is no Camp Bernie staff nurse on site

On the Camp Bernie paperwork, please indicate any medical needs for your student including daily medication and administration directions

For the trip, please place all medication into a clear baggie with your student's name and class and include any and all administration instructions/directions

The morning of the trip, Ms. Moore will collect the baggies from each student and will give them to a pre-assigned chaperone to administer to that student

Please note all food allergies and dietary restrictions on the Camp Bernie paperwork. If you have already turned in the paperwork, please email Asia Stanislaus at Astanislaus@ms447.org

All food allergies and dietary restrictions will be sent to Camp Bernie ahead of our trip

Packing List and Donations

If you have any of these items to donate OR you are in need of any of these items, please reach out to Amy Sirot at Asirot@ms447.org

Camp Bernie Packing List

Thursday, Nov 14th - Friday, Nov. 15th

In order for students to be safe and comfortable while at Camp Bernie, it is important that they come prepared!



REQUIRED ITEMS

****All belongings should be labeled with the student's name.**

BEING OUTDOORS ALL DAY IN A FOREST IN NEW JERSEY IS MUCH MORE EXTREME THAN BEING OUTSIDE ON THE STREETS OF NEW YORK CITY FOR 30 MINUTES. BE PREPARED

- Weather appropriate outdoor clothing (layers are highly recommended)
 - Enough for two days worth of cold/wet weather or possibly mild weather
 - Gloves, Hat
- Fleece, hoodie, knit hat, **AND** a comfortable jacket
- Undergarments, pajamas
- Socks and shoes (closed shoes, preferably waterproof— it can get soggy & cold)
- Rain gear
- Sleeping bag, sheet and pillow. Or regular bedding for one twin bed - including pillow, sheets, and blanket
- Toiletry bag with necessary items - toothbrush, paste, soap, deodorant, towel, flip flops for shower, etc...

WHAT NOT TO BRING

Many things go missing on this trip. Leave valuable things at home

- All Jewelry
- Expensive belongings (electronics devices such as reading tablets and iPads)
- Anything with sentimental value should be left at home

OPTIONAL

- sunscreen
- lip balm

Morning Of

Please arrive at 345 Dean Street no later than 7:30 am

Students will be ushered into the Auditorium and sit by class

While in the Auditorium, students will be assigned their bus number

As we approach Camp Bernie, each student will be given a slip of paper that includes their Learning Group Letter, Cabin Name, Meal Table Number and the names of their adult chaperones

Q & A