



Dear Parents/Guardians:

February/March 2020

Summer G.A.P. registration is here! Summer G.A.P. is available on a first come, first served basis. It is open to any child that is five by the time they attend the program and enrolled in an elementary school. The child must also live in the Brookings community or have parents that work in Brookings. It is expected that children will attend full days, however some exceptions are allowed pending Coordinator's approval. There are four sites for summer G.A.P., each with its own special personality.

The First United Methodist Church is located on the corner of 5th St and 7th Ave. This site is for pre-kindergarten children and children who have completed Junior Kindergarten. Children from this location will be bussed to swimming lessons as well as one session of Safety Town, but other park and recreation activities will be the parent's responsibility.



The Hillcrest site is located close to Hillcrest pool and park and is open to children who have completed kindergarten through the completion of 2nd grade. Children at this location can attend tennis lessons, soccer and swimming lessons at the aquatics center through the park and recreation program.

Medary School is on 5th Street South between the corners of Medary Ave and 7th Ave S. It is open to children who have completed kindergarten through the completion of 2nd grade. Children who attend the Medary site can participate in swimming lessons and one session of Safety Town.

Camelot School will be open for older children that will be going into 4th grade and not yet attended 6th grade, and are less than 13 years old. Programs will be developmentally appropriate for this age group, and activities may take them off site more than the other locations. Only one session of swimming lessons will be suggested for this group.



Swim days occur every week and the children attending the Camelot, Medary and Kindergarten sites are bussed to the Aquatics Center. The Hillcrest site walks to the pool. Once they are at the pool, the children spend the day swimming and playing in the park until their parents pick them up at the Aquatics Center.

Summer G.A.P. will begin the first day of summer vacation for the Brookings School District. The last day of summer G.A.P. will be Friday, August 7th. There will be no G.A.P. on May 25th, July 3rd, and August 10th-18th.

Summer 2020 Fees are:

	<u>Full Fees</u>	<u>Reduced Lunch Fees</u>	<u>Free Lunch Fees</u>
<u>Full Time</u>	\$120/wk	\$78/wk	\$50/wk
<u>4 days/wk</u>	\$104/wk	\$70/wk	\$43/wk
<u>3 days/wk</u>	\$87/wk	\$58/wk	\$35/wk
<u>2 days/wk</u>	\$65/wk	\$42/wk	\$27/wk
<u>1 day/wk</u>	\$38/wk	\$25/wk	\$17/wk



Families requesting reduced fees must have on file an application for free or reduced meals. This form can be obtained from the G.A.P. office, on our webpage or any G.A.P. location. It is the same form used by the schools for application for free and reduced lunches, and must be completed annually.



Fees for G.A.P. can be paid monthly or bi-monthly and should be received no later than the 10th or 25th of the month to ensure that program costs are met. Fees are expected to be paid in advance. Payments can also be made using the automatic cash withdrawal (ACH) option. Families using ACH will have funds pulled from their account on the 10th and 25th of each month.

(or on the next work day if these dates fall on a weekend/holiday), paying for two weeks of care each time. A withdrawal schedule will be sent to families so they can plan accordingly.

Themes are used bi-weekly with structured morning activities centered on that theme. We are currently planning the themes for the summer and are using a number of materials from National Geographic. All children may choose to visit the Sioux Falls Zoo in June, and there is an annual Oakwood trip and Wild Water West trip for the older children at the end of June and in July. Afternoon activities are less structured; field trips, movie day, bike rides and swimming all occur in the hours after lunch. Because swimming is an important part of the summer routine, the children will be going to the pool two or three times a week or as weather permits (pool days are the same for all sites).

Two snacks will be served daily, one morning and one afternoon. Sack lunches will need to be brought from home. Some refrigeration is available, but ice packs work great for lunches. A microwave is also available for use (please limit microwave use to three minutes or less). Lunch will be eaten around noon, or at the conclusion of morning activities.



A monthly calendar will be available for parents so that special plans will be known in advance (bowling, library, out to lunch days, etc.). Any schedule changes will be posted on the communications board at the sites. **This needs to be checked daily!** Some activities may require an extra fee. To avoid parents repeatedly being asked for small amounts of money, a petty cash fund will be set up for each child. Deposits of cash, in small bills (nothing over \$5 please) can be done throughout the summer, and parents will be apprised of its balance periodically. As always, participation in activities that require an extra fee is optional. \$20 of your deposit will be used to start the petty cash fund for your child, and any extra money will be put into the scholarship funds.

Children may take part in Park and Rec activities, but it will be the responsibility of the parents to enroll their children in these designated activities. Although G.A.P. cannot provide transportation to all events, the staff will be escorting children to some swimming lessons. Specific session times will be suggested when the schedule is known. Staff should be informed of summer schedules so that we can remind children to attend at the appropriate time. In the past parents have arranged transportation with carpools or Brookings Area Transit Authority. Park and Rec sign up begins April 7th. When the recreation schedule becomes available more information will be emailed.



If you are interested in having your child attend the summer G.A.P. program, complete the summer 2020 enrollment form as soon as possible. This will allow us adequate time to hire staff and organize activities. The Dates of Participation Form should be returned by April 15th, or as soon as your summer schedule is known. Your child's spot is reserved once the deposit and Participation Form are received. More information will be shared, before sign up starts, concerning the park and recreation lessons.

A summer orientation meeting will take place Church (625 5th St). This is an ideal time for about the summer program. The meeting will take



place in the G.A.P. rooms on the west side of the First United Methodist Church in the education wing. Please enter using the double south doors. Families new to G.A.P. will need to complete paperwork at this time or arrange an alternative meeting. If you have any questions that need immediate attention, please give the G.A.P. office a call at 692-8066.

Jan Stange, G.A.P. Coordinator