

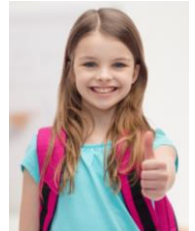


Dear Parents/Guardians:

March 2021

Summer G.A.P. registration is finally ready! 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 5<sup>th</sup> St and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. This site is for pre-kindergarten children and children who have completed Junior Kindergarten. Children from this location will be bussed to one session of Safety Town, time and date TBD.



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

Medary School is on 5<sup>th</sup> Street South between the corners of Medary Ave and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave S. It is open to children who have completed kindergarten through the completion of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Children who attend the Medary site can participate in Safety Town, preferably a morning session.

Camelot School will be open for older children that will be going into 4<sup>th</sup> grade and not yet attended 6<sup>th</sup> 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.



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. In the past all sites went to the pool on the same day. With possible attendance restrictions, who attends the pool on certain days will be on the monthly activity calendar.

Summer G.A.P. will begin on May 24<sup>th</sup> unless the school year is extended due to snow days. The last day of summer G.A.P. will be Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be no G.A.P. on May 31<sup>st</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup>, and August 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>.

Summer 2021 Fees are:	<u>Full Fees</u>	<u>Reduced Lunch Fees</u>	<u>Free Lunch Fees</u>
<u>Full Time</u>	\$125/wk	\$83/wk	\$55/wk
<u>4 days/wk</u>	\$108/wk	\$74/wk	\$47/wk
<u>3 days/wk</u>	\$90/wk	\$61/wk	\$38/wk
<u>2 days/wk</u>	\$67/wk	\$44/wk	\$29/wk
<u>1 day/wk</u>	\$39/wk	\$26/wk	\$18/wk



Family's 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 10<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> 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 bi-weekly with structured morning activities centered on that theme. This summer a number of materials are being used from National Geographic. Afternoon activities are less structured; field trips (if COVID is under control), 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. Day trips are on hold for now as we navigate through COVID.

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 emailed for parents so that special plans will be known in advance. Any schedule changes will be posted at the sites. 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 non-refundable 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 at this time it is unknown what activities will be offered. If swim lessons are available and work within the structure of the summer program, parents will be notified. It will be the responsibility of the parent to enroll their children in these designated activities. In the past parents have arranged transportation with carpools or Brookings Area Transit Authority. When the recreation schedule becomes available more information will be emailed to families that have enrolled.



If you are interested in having your child attend the summer G.A.P. program, complete the summer 2021 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 30<sup>th</sup>, or as soon as your summer schedule is known. Your child's spot is reserved once the deposit and Participation Form are received. Our sites will be continuing the 50% capacity rule required by the schools.



A summer orientation meeting will take place **May** **3rd** at 5:45 at the First United Methodist Church (625 5<sup>th</sup> St). This is an ideal time for parents to ask questions and find out more about the summer program. The meeting will take place outside on the west side of the First United Methodist Church. Hope for good weather! Families new to G.A.P. will need to complete paperwork at this time or arrange an alternative meeting time. Bring a chair, a pen, your child if they will be attending the kindergarten site, and your questions. If you have something that needs immediate attention, please give the G.A.P. office a call at 692-8066.

*Jan Stange*, G.A.P. Coordinator