Arlington Public Schools
Education That Empowers

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Gibbs Overnight Experience

Sam Hoyo <shoyo@arlington.k12.ma.us> Thu, Jan 11, 2024 at 2:21 PM
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Hi Dr Homan,

Mme and the Gibbs team is currently trying to get an approximate number of students who will be attending the trip. Families have indicated that 353 students are interested in going and 56 students will not be attending. We are still awaiting responses from 60 students (these numbers are in flux as parents respond to the survey). Of those interested in attending, 13 students require full assistance with payment, and 24 students require some financial assistance. Given that the school committee was very invested in an overnight experience to happen in APS, I think it's important that they know this and could brainstorm how APS will help fund this venture.

Here is the document I created that has the cost breakdown. Please note that the estimate per student ($512.33) is lower than the $525 we asked students to pay. This is for multiple reasons, we estimated the cost based on all students would attend-which is not true, and regardless of the number of students attending-the cost of the buses will not change, etc.

One question parents had that we did not have a specific answer for during our parent forum was what will students do who are not attending. Now that I have a better idea of numbers I decided to do a multi day engineering experience for students to engage in, which will culminate in a presentation of the engineering project chosen. The engineering 4 projects that I would like to do are:

- Engineering Bioinspired Gear
- Engineering Prosthetic Tails
- Engineering Safety Helmets
- Engineering Bioplastics

The curriculum for these projects is through the Museum of Science "Engineering is Everywhere" series. Students would have a choice as to which project they would like to work on for the 3 days. This does come with an additional cost of approximately $3000, that the district would need to fund. I would be very happy to put something more formal together regarding these projects if you and/or the school committee require it.

Finally, here is the timeline of what events have/will occur:

1/25 school wide assembly for students re: Nature's Classroom

12/13 Informational meeting for parents with Gibbs team and Nature's Classroom staff

12/8 Informational packet was sent home for parents

I hope this helps. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance

Hoyo

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