Introduction

High school camp stands as one of our most meaningful and time-honored traditions. It is an experience that marks the beginning of each school year with purpose, unity, and spiritual focus. For many years, this retreat has been the cornerstone of our efforts to orient students' hearts and minds toward Christ. As the single largest spiritual retreat of the year, it plays a vital role in shaping the culture and community of our high school. During these three dedicated days, we intentionally step away from the busyness of everyday life to reflect on our annual spiritual theme, which guides our chapel speakers and sets the tone for the year ahead. This year's theme, "With Purpose," is rooted in Ephesians 2:10: "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

In addition to rich spiritual teaching, camp also offers essential opportunities for fun, connection, and relationship-building elements that are foundational to the high school experience. We remain deeply committed to this tradition because of the lasting fruit we see in the lives of our students in the weeks and months that follow.

Below you will find some helpful information as you help your student prepare for camp. Please read the entire letter.

High School Camp Forms & Action Items Checklist

Please read through the entire document and complete the following forms and tasks to ensure your student is fully prepared for camp. All links and additional details can be found at the bottom of this page. All items on the checklist are due by July 11th.

1. Camp Permission Form

o Complete the required *Camp Permission Form* in Blackbaud.

2. Over-the-Counter Medication Authorization

- Verify that the Over-the-Counter Medication Form has been completed in Blackbaud.
- o If not yet completed, please log in to Blackbaud and submit this form as soon as possible.

3. Cabin Requests

Students should submit their Cabin Mate Requests as soon as possible.

4. Lost Canyon Camp Waiver

• Submit the required *Lost Canyon Camp Waiver* form.

5. Medical Dietary Restrictions

 Complete the *Medical Dietary Restriction Form* if your student has any food allergies or dietary needs.

6. Parent Volunteer Form

If you are interested in volunteering for camp, please complete the Parent Volunteer Form.

7. Camp T-Shirt Size

• Complete the form below with your t-shirt size.

Need for Volunteers

It will take approximately 50 parent volunteers to effectively run camp. If you are willing to volunteer for the Work Crew, please take a moment to fill out the <u>volunteer form</u>. Mrs. Thruston has graciously offered to help coordinate the volunteer efforts and will be in touch with more details soon. Should you need to register with Protect My Ministry to complete your background check, we will be in touch via email. Your support plays a vital role in the success of camp, and we truly appreciate your willingness to serve.

Lifeguards

We are in need of 3 lifeguards for camp. If you are interested, please reach out to Mrs. Maszton at <u>smaszton@ncsaz.org</u> for more information.

Cost

The cost of camp is included in your tuition and fees so there is no additional cost.

Dates and Times

There are no high school classes on August 6th - 8th. All high schoolers should meet in the Don Sanderson Gymnasium at 11:30 AM on August 6th. We will return via bus to NCS on Friday, August 8th at approximately 1:00 PM.

Location and Phone Number for Camp

Lost Canyon Camp, 1450 S Perkinsville Road Williams, AZ 86046, 928-635-2900.

Transportation

Students will be transported to and from camp via charter buses.

Cabin Time

Cabin time, held after each chapel session, provides a valuable opportunity for students to reflect on the message and discuss how it applies to their personal lives. It also provides an opportunity for students and cabin leaders to build relationships that will carry them through the academic year.

Rooming Sign Ups

Sign up for a gender and grade-specific cabin using your school email via the link below, ensuring you select the same cabin as friends if you wish to room together; you can swap later using the same link if space allows. (New students can use a personal email) Please sign up for rooming ASAP by clicking on this link: Rooming Rooming Room

Waiver - EVERYONE MUST FILL OUT THE WAIVER

Every camp participant must fill out the <u>Lost Canyon Waiver</u>. This includes every student, volunteer, and NCS faculty member.

NCS Permission Form - EVERYONE MUST FILL OUT THE WAIVER

The NCS permission form has been added to your Blackbaud profile. Please log on to your portal and fill that out.

Food Requests for Medical Needs - ONLY FILL OUT FOR MEDICAL DIETARY REQUESTS

If your student has any dietary restrictions due to a medical reason, please fill this form out. Medical Dietary Requests.

T-Shirt Size:

Please take a quick moment to fill out the form with your camp shirt size. We'll be handing out shirts on **Registration Day**, and we want to make sure yours fits just right! Click <u>here</u> for the form.

Over The Counter Medication Form

Nurse Anna Johnson will accompany us to care for any student needs while at camp. We will utilize the Over-the-Counter Medication Form that you completed during the re-enrollment process. If you have not yet completed this form, please check the status of your student's forms by logging in to Blackbaud and clicking on "Files and Forms." There, you will be able to see if any forms are pending or view those that have already been completed. If you have any additional questions, please contact Nurse Heiser at aheiser@ncsaz.org.

What to Bring

- Camp shirt- will be distributed on registration day, at no cost to the student
- Toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.)
- Sunscreen
- Refillable water bottle
- Snacks
- Lost Canyon will provide a pillow, a pillow case, sheets, a blanket & towel (please feel free to bring your own)
- Flashlight
- Bible, notebook, pen
- Money for Snack Bar/ Coffee Shop at Lost Canyon
- Cell phones We kindly request that you leave your cell phones in the cabin during worship sessions. Cell phones may be used during free time, but phone usage should be kept to a minimum.
- Theme Items
 - Class color attire and accessories for class competitions on Thursday afternoon Country Western attire for Thursday night dinner and dance
- Pants, jeans, and shorts (need to be modest)
- T-shirts should be school-appropriate- no inappropriate graphics, vulgar language, or political references, no tank tops, halter tops, or crop tops allowed
- Raingear-just in case
- Jacket or sweatshirt
- Athletic shoes, flip flops, water shoes- be sure to bring more than one pair of shoes in case they get wet
- Modest, one piece swimsuit
- Swimsuit must be worn with shorts and a t-shirt over when walking around
- Guys must also wear a t-shirt with swim shorts when walking around
- Make sure all clothing covers any tattoos, no visible piercings for guys, and ear piercings only for girls

Do not bring

- Firecrackers, matches, lighters, etc.
- Weapons of any sort
- Water balloons
- Any items that are not allowed on the NCS campus

Evening and Overnight Expectations

To ensure the safety and well-being of all students during high school camp, we have established clear expectations for evening and overnight hours. Students are expected to be in their assigned cabins by **11:30** p.m. each night, with **lights out by midnight**. This time allows for much-needed rest after full and meaningful days of activities, worship, and community building.

For the safety of everyone, students must remain in their cabins from 11:30 p.m. until 5:30 a.m. the following morning. These boundaries help us maintain a secure and peaceful environment for all campers.

Please note the following important guidelines:

- If a student is not present in their cabin during the **Wednesday night bed check**, they will be required to return to Phoenix early on **Thursday morning**. The transportation will be the responsibility of the parents.
- If a student is not present in their cabin during the **Thursday night bed check**, they will be permitted to return with the group on **Friday as scheduled**, but will receive an **in-school suspension** due to the seriousness of the infraction.

We ask for everyone's cooperation in honoring these expectations as an important part of fostering a safe, respectful, and spiritually focused camp environment.

Conclusion

This time would not be possible without the incredible dedication of our staff, the generous support of parents, and the many volunteers who help behind the scenes. From transportation and logistics to prayer and encouragement, we are so grateful for each person who helps bring this vision to life. Please join me in prayer for the upcoming school year, that God would use this time to awaken hearts, deepen faith, and call our students to walk confidently in the purpose He has set before them.

God bless you,

Samantha Maszton

Secondary Principal & Assistant Superintendent

Northwest Christian School