



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Sherman Lake YMCA



Integrated Education School Program

Information Packet

Welcome to the Sherman Lake YMCA Integrated Education School Programs

Welcome!

We have put together this School Programs Information Packet to help answer any questions that you might have about the School Programs at Sherman Lake YMCA. Inside you will find a packing list, our behavior policy and most importantly the health form you and your student need to fill out and return to your teacher.

We look forward to meeting your student/s and helping to create some lasting memories they will remember for years to come. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lorrie at 269-731-3022. Together, we build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities.

Sincerely,



Lorrie Syverson
Director of Camping & Education

Program Philosophy

The focus of the school programs is to enhance understanding of the four principles of Honesty, Caring, Respect, and Responsibility. By focusing on these character concepts, a student learns greater self-esteem and self-reliance while increasing one's emotional intelligence.

Registration and Health Information Form and Medication

At the end of this School Information Packet is a Registration and Health Information Form that is required of every student who attends the school programs at Sherman Lake YMCA. ***Your child may not attend without this form signed and returned to your student's teacher prior to the camp experience.***

Clothing and Equipment List

The following is a list of clothing and equipment your student may need for the 1 day school experience at Sherman Lake YMCA. *(The camp will not be responsible for loss of articles. Campers are encouraged to leave valuable items at home)*

Suggested Clothing and Equipment *(The older the better.)*

- rain jacket or poncho
- insect repellent & sunscreen
- water bottle
- backpack to carry items listed above
- camera (disposable kind) – optional

PLEASE DO NOT BRING

Please do not bring to camp any *fireworks, tobacco products, illegal drugs, knives, or guns.* **Being in possession of any of these items could result in the student's immediate dismissal from camp.**

Behavior Response Policy

Prior to attending camp, the students will meet the Sherman Lake YMCA staff at their school and receive a complete orientation of what to expect at camp. Upon arrival, each student is placed in a cabin group and will be given the task of helping develop their community. Our YMCA Camp works hard to create an environment for everyone to succeed within the boundaries of safety and our four principles of Honesty, Caring, Respect and Responsibility. When that set boundary is broken, it is essential to provide some form of understanding and consequence. Our counselors follow these procedures:

1. Planning and Preventative
 - Counselor establishes clear boundaries and works with students to establish behavior expectations.
 - Students agree to boundaries.
 - Counselors and all staff must continually communicate and encourage student behavior within boundaries. Keep the focus on positive behavior of the group.
2. Questioning (What is the student reality?) and refocus.
 - Counselor looks at his/her behavior first.
 - Were the boundaries clear? Did my actions escalate or encourage negative response?
 - Student looks at his/her behavior.
 - Can the student identify boundaries in their own words?
3. Action: Disruptive or negative behaviors.

If there is an issue that cannot be resolved by the student or the counselor, appropriate action is taken. Safety of all of all students and staff is central to the HCRR philosophy. Sherman Lake YMCA will work within a restorative practices framework when resolving conflicts. The actions involved will include:

 - Verbal warning and positive redirection
 - Parents, teachers and the school will be notified and the student will be given last warning
 - If the issue is so serious that it cannot be resolved to ensure the safety of the students and the staff, the student will be removed from camp (*Parent/Guardian is responsible for picking the student up. There will be no refund for a student who leaves camp due to a behavior issue.*)

Bullying Policy:

When a student chooses to threaten, intimidate, ostracize, or ridicule another student, they will be warned 1 time and a camp director will talk with the teachers and call the parents, the student will talk to the parents.

If bullying behavior continues the student may be removed from camp.

Any act of violence or aggression that jeopardizes the safety of the camp or any participants, teachers or staff may result in immediate dismissal.