

Zoo Afterschool Program Information and Expectations

What is ZAP?

ZAP is the Zoo Afterschool Program. Through a partnership between Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium and Bancroft and Castelar elementary schools, ZAP provides inquiry-based STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) learning opportunities for students that will inspire interest, ability, and value for STEM in the natural world. In ZAP, students explore interests through hands-on lessons, learn life skills, and practice art and athletics.

Program Information

- Program begins at 4:05 p.m. Students are escorted from their classrooms immediately to after school.
- Program ends at 6:00 p.m. and all students must be picked up by 6:10 PM.
- Students will be provided homework time and a hot meal.
- ZAP is a free program. All corresponding paperwork and agreements must be filled out and signed to participate in this program.

Program Expectations

- Students are expected to attend at least 60% of each month to stay enrolled in the program.
- ZAP follows OPS Student Code of Conduct.
- Students must be respectful of all zoo animals and visitors while on zoo field trips.
- Inappropriate behavior may result in suspension or removal from the program.
- Students must be picked up at 6:00 PM.
- **Pick up will be at your vehicle. Please remain in your vehicle and a staff member will release your student to your car.** Parents will park in a designated pickup location outside of the school. If you are walking and picking up your child, please practice social distancing or wear a mask. **Due to health guidelines, parents are not allowed to enter the school building unless prior arrangements have been made.**

Health and Safety

We remain focused on the safety and health of our animals, students, and staff. Classrooms and high touch surfaces will be sanitized before, during and after use. Students and staff are required to wear masks while inside buildings. Children under age 5 are exempt from this rule, as well as those with medical concerns. Students who are not feeling well, must stay home.

Program Contacts

Mark Richter- *Afterschool Site Coordinator- Castelar Elementary*

(706)296-9104

Mark.Richter@Omahazoo.com

Ivy Banks- *Assistant Site Coordinator Castelar Elementary*

Ivy.Banks@Omahazoo.com

This activity is supported in part by 21st century community learning center federal funds under title IV, part B of the elementary and secondary education act as amended.

Please keep this page for your reference.



Zoo Afterschool Program Parent Contract

In this document, "parent" refers to the primary caregiver of a student enrolled in the Zoo Afterschool Program (ZAP), whether that is a biological parent, foster parent, grandparent, or legal guardian. All parents are expected to follow the listed rules and guidelines.

- Students enrolled in ZAP are required to attend programming at least 60% of each month. Parents must ensure that students meet this requirement or face removal from the program. Adjustments will be made per Omaha Public Schools' requirements for the 20-21 school year.
- Parents must provide working and reliable phone numbers for emergency contact purposes. Parents are expected to notify the Site Coordinator if any contact information changes. Please share the Site Coordinator's phone number with listed emergency contacts.
- NEW Students, staff, and all parents/guardians are required to wear masks while inside buildings.
- Program ends at 6:00 p.m. Children must be picked up no later than 6:10 p.m.
If a parent has not picked up their student by 6:10 PM, it is considered a late pick-up. Parents are allowed one warning; subsequent late pick-ups will be documented and result in student suspension or expulsion from the program.
- NEW If a student needs to leave early, you must make arrangements with the site coordinator.
- NEW Pick up will be at your vehicle. Please remain in your vehicle and a staff member will release your student to your car. Parents will park in a designated pickup location outside of the school. If you are walking and picking up your child, please practice social distancing or wear a mask.
- NEW Due to health guidelines, parents are not allowed to enter the school building unless prior arrangements have been made.
- A list of allowed pick-up contacts must be provided to ZAP staff. Pick-up contacts must be at least 19 years old. If the parent or an approved pick-up contact is not available to pick up the student, a parent must call the Site Coordinator with the person who will be picking up the student that day.
- Parents are required to participate in a program orientation prior to a student's acceptance into ZAP.
- ZAP follows the OPS Student Code of Conduct. Harmful or disruptive behaviors from students will be documented and communicated with parents. Parents are expected to understand that repeated or extreme offenses will result in their student being suspended or removed from the program.
- If a student has not been picked up by 6:20pm, the Site Director will contact the Omaha Police Department.
- It is not acceptable at any time to show aggression, use foul language, intimidate, or use physical contact toward any ZAP staff member or student.
- All grievances related to ZAP staff or students must be formally discussed with the Site Coordinator. A meeting can be set up over the phone, through email, or in person with social distancing precautions in place.
- Pick up will be at your vehicle. Please remain in your vehicle and a staff member will release your student to your car. Parents will park in a designated pickup location outside of the school. If you are walking and picking up your child, please practice social distancing or wear a mask. Due to health guidelines, parents are not allowed to enter the school building unless prior arrangements have been made.

Education Program Participants assume all risks and danger arising out of or relating to the risk of contracting COVID-19 and agrees that the Omaha Zoological Society, its directors, officers, employees, and agents are not liable for any losses, damages, or injuries (including death) from such causes, and agrees that he or she understands that the foregoing waiver means the holder of this registration gives up the right to bring any claims for losses, damages, or injuries (including death), including but not limited to claims of negligence against the Omaha Zoological Society, its directors, officers, employees, or its agents.

By submitting this application, you agree to all the above rules and guidelines.

