

# Chaperone Needs for Bowman Bay

Dear Parents of EAS,

This coming spring, we have been given the green light by LWSD to pursue our June outing to Bowman Bay. This is our last adventure trip of each year. It traditionally is an exciting and memorable experience for all our students. These next few weeks see us preparing for our spring April trips. Even as that is occurring, there is a need to start the planning for our final Bowman Bay expedition. There is a lot to do, so here is the skinny-

## **Trip Dates: June 3 - June 7**

Bowman bay is a 4-night 5-day expedition in which we run "school" from one of our favorite places in the NW. We camp out for all 4 nights; we cook our meals on stoves, and we run program (hands on rotations-much like Camp Hamilton) from 9am until 5:30 pm every day. At 5:30 we transition to an evening program culminating with campfire, and then head to our tents and tarp for a good night's rest, only to get up in the morning and repeat for another day. It is a tremendous experience for all that are involved, and it takes a few hands to make it the best experience possible.

### ***Please note:***

***All chaperones need to be at camp and involved with program throughout each day from breakfast until campfire in most cases- you will also help at night with chaperoning duties. This is not an opportunity to commute to camp daily, nor is it a good fit for individuals that need to be continuing their "real" job back at home.***

To fulfill the requirements to make camp happen, I need rotation staff, cooks, student group staff, and drivers. The break down and explanations are below:

### **I need 16 to 20 parent chaperones to run or assist in running a rotation for the four full days at camp.**

Rotations are two-hour long classes/activities that are taught by a team of parents and/or teachers 8 times over the course of the week at camp. We need to have 10-11 well developed rotations all told.

Below is a list of traditional BB rotations that we have run. Some may require a small bit of learning on your part, while others may be something you already have experience at... I will list the rotation from previous years and then give a very brief description of what it might look like:

- **Pioneering-** creating large wooden structures with the kids- think catapults and log bridges. We have all the materials
- **Crafts/Arts-** we have had many of varying topics over the years from felt soap making, leather work, arrowhead making, braiding, to tie-dye. We have a lot of materials. All ideas are welcomed.
- **Grilling-** teaching the kids about the art of grilling- We love this one. The past leaders of this rotation have set a high bar.
- **Kite making or Small project builds-** build and fly your own amazingly cool kite from scratch. Or build your own project.
- **Sailing-** (only one to two adults needed) assisting aboard our hired sailing vessels and running program aboard said vessel. (Still working on commitments from our sailing vessels.)
- **Initiatives-** creating and hosting games, challenges and whatnot to students- This is one of my favorites and I am happy to help develop a lesson plan.
- **Stewardship-** hands on activities that help the state park. Holding a hammer, rake or a pair of pruners is typical for a few of the park projects we take on.

- **Dutch Oven**- give them that old style cooking technique. We have all the tools needed for this amazing rotation. Come with some fun recipes that kids can plan and execute.
- **Beach Games**- come up with a bevy of games that can be created and played on the beach.
- **Athletics**/other full body infused activities... your imagination is your only limitation.... There is a huge field available for this.
- **Marine Biology**- Study the Salish Seas, - talk to Brian Healy for ideas if need be.
- **Hike and Sketch** – hike the area and put some sketching skills to use capturing the beauty.
- **Navigation**- teach the students the art of navigation. I have some thoughts...
- **Dance and Circus Arts**- Minato loves this one. Will probably be leading it again.
- **Musical instrument making** (flutes, mouth harps, percussion etc...) some materials and past lesson plans available.
- **Other Ideas**: work up a program or rotation on something you love to teach, then pass the idea by me. Perhaps you have a great idea that needs to be shared and developed for the next best rotation at BB.

**I also need TWO head kitchen cooks and three assistants.**

Traditionally we have three camps at BB. Each of these camps has a kitchen that serves food to about 55-65 people. The head cook oversees this process for dinners and breakfasts. There is training available.

Assistant cooks spend most of their day assisting at a rotation and then head on back to help the head cook work with the kids and prepare meals.

**Your next move:** If you are interested in being up at BB for the week, then I would like you to contact me via EMAIL at [jhamilton@lwsd.org](mailto:jhamilton@lwsd.org) in the next two weeks or so stating whether you would like to:

- run a rotation (give idea(s))- I am available to help you plan your lesson!
- assist in a rotation (list skills if you have a preference- then I can match you with the best rotation possible)
- assist in a rotation but also help as assistant cook.
- or be one of my head cooks of one of the camps.

PLEASE- be as precise as possible with the above information and your experience if applicable. I will be reaching out to each interested party to discuss the changing needs based upon your responses. Thanks.

**If you are unable to be there for a full week**, I would ask that you partner up with a fellow EAS parent to split the week with them. If you are unsure of who to contact to split the week, then tell me if you are available from M-W or W-F and I will work on pairing you up. I will take full week commitments as a priority but will usually use a few part timers as well.

**If you are only interested in driving to or from BB:** Laura Bartoletti will be asking for some parents to help get us to and from Bowman Bay later on. No need to reply here if this is all you are able to do.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents**, this is the final adventure you could be a part of. Make the choice to join us for this memorable experience.

Sincerely,

**John Hamilton**

Expedition Leader