

PRPS Summer Camp Roundtable

January 31, 2022

Ashley Helmstaedter: We will open up on Feb 14 for registration

Erin Timby: Upper Dublin is posting our brochures February 1 and opening registration for residents March 14, non-residents March 21.

Amber Puccarelli: Sorry that was for everyone! We don't open until April 1!

Megan Prusienski: We have registration open. Newtown Township.

Tom Steines: Full registration. Not sure about field trips.

Megan Prusienski: New town 🌐 and yes we're open to regular numbers pre-void.

Audrey Logar: We open March 1st. I have no microphone today. Day camp opens March 1st and Non. Res. March 2nd. Same numbers as last year for now.

Ashley Helmstaedter: We are Butler County, Western PA. We sell out of camp.

Craig Shevchik: can speakers say where they are located

Tom Steines: Increased pay for this year

Jeannette Zimmerman: West Hanover - No. first year for all day 10 week program. Back to normal!
Increased salaries by \$2

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: Agree with Tom, had to increase as well but not as high as our neighbors per hour.

Tess Croy: Spring Township- Berks County

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: Newtown Township, Bucks County in SEPA

Tom Steines: West Goshen Township - Chester County

Ashley Helmstaedter: Butler County, we are \$10 and \$12 for supervisors and that was with a raise, we struggle trying to keep up with the raises.

Becky Richards Asst. Park Director: Exeter Township, Berks County

Niki Tourscher: <https://www.acacamps.org/>

Christine Boud: West Reading-Berks County

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: We are not ACA members. Our range for Camp Directors is \$14-\$18/hr. Camp prices increased their normal 3.5% (annually)

Mike Richino: Whitpain Township, Montgomery County We are paying our Administrators \$20 an hour, grade leaders get \$15 an hour and counselors \$12 an hour

Jeannette Zimmerman: West Hanover - first year for Director \$20 hour, Asst. Director \$18. Counselor - \$14. Junior counselors volunteer

Tom Steines: West Goshen - \$18 head counselor, \$15 counselor, \$7.25 junior counselor

Nikki S.: Mechanicsburg - starting salary \$12, camp supervisors \$18

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: Yes. We went from 7 weeks to 6 weeks. more head counselors want a week off.

Kim Tuin: Brodheads ville--Camp Director \$13, Camp Counselors \$8 start with 3.5% raise

Audrey Logar: Camp Hill, Counselor \$10 and Head Counselor \$14. Camp 10 weeks and end mid August for college kids. Assuming we have staffing.

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: they actually were the only ones we ran during covid when our day camp was cancelled. they have been excellent.

Ashley Helmstaedter: Does anyone do themes?

Kelsey Najdek: Carlisle-- \$11 CC to start, Head \$14 to start

Tess Croy: yes every week has a different theme

Tom Steines: Nice to have but not necessary

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: one of our most popular theme week is "Olympic" weeks so we have some inter camp games, color wars/etc.

Amber Puccarelli: We do an Olympic week too and it is by far the most popular! We set it up with almost every game and sport we did all summer jammed into 4 days!

Mike Richino: all of our camp administration are certified teachers

Audrey Logar: Our college kids are education majors but hard to get teachers to want to work over summer, especially with kids.

Christine Boud: We also do summer Olympic week- the kids really love it.

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: we require the camp director to be a certified teacher. head counselors we prefer to be in the edu field.

Tom Steines: My teacher friends get paid way more for school summer programs

Kelsey Najdek: Our day camp does themes every week. Some parents will sign their child up based on their interest in that theme, others just sign up for the childcare. But we love the themes!

Katie Nowland: One theme was super hero week, when the police and fire fighters came and talked to the kids :)

Kim Tuin: We had Mad Science do a week of camp in August when our 6 week summer camp ended (mid June to end of July). Certified teachers in our area -- Brodheadsville have wanted their summers off in our area. We have camp counselors who are young people headed to college or in college

Kim Tuin: We work with outside presentations and have a theme a week too. We have Scouts come in for an hour nature presentation, Hug a Tree--what to do if lost in woods, American Red Cross on Natural Disasters, a magician, a reptile guy

Nikki S.:Mechanicsburg - we prefer certified teachers and/or those in an educational program to fill our camp leader positions - but anyone that demonstrates an ability to lead and has group management skills will be considered

Christine Boud: It's only myself and am part time.

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: I love the scout idea! We are near a state park and how to handle getting lost in the woods is an excellent topic!

Amber Puccarelli: Question about field trips! I am new to taking of this program at Hampton Township. When you do field trips, do all campers attend or is there an option to not go on the field trip?

Tom Steines: Everyone goes. No counselors at park on field trips days.

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: Go on the field trip or stay home. same as Nikki.

Ashley Helmstaedter: What area are you Tess?

Tess Croy: Spring Township- Berks County

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: we are open for our regular ages, 4 - 9th grade.

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: *ages 4 through 9th grade.

Becky Richards Asst. Park Director: Our Playground program is Monday to Thursdays. Fridays are optional Field Trip days that have an additional cost, with no regular program that day. We did mostly on-site activities on Fridays, and only 2 field trips. We plan to have more field tri[s] this year, and a few on-site programs that worked well.

Becky Richards Asst. Park Director: The DaVinci Science Center did an excellent program that wrapped up our Weird Science week.

Tess Croy: tcroy@springtwpberks.org

Denise Bauer: dbauer@wildlandspa.org

Donna Ludwig: Where is the DaVinci Science Center out of?

Christine Boud: cboudwestreadingborough.org

Becky Richards Asst. Park Director: The DaVinci Science Center is outside Allentown, PA

Donna Ludwig: Thank you.

Crystal Werkheiser: Where does everyone post their year round jobs that are available?

Tom Steines: Township newsletter and website, facebook

Craig Shevchik: Indeed and PRPS

Audrey Logar: We had theater camp last summer and the kids wear masks and/or shields. Less numbers too.

Kim Tuin: We do smores second last week of camp but called them in groups of 5 to make them but our camp is small

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: last year we did half capacity, this year we are going full.

Erin Timby: Thanks!

Nikki S.: We post jobs on our school district website, Facebook page and brochure

Tom Steines: Cancelled our teen program last two summers since no field trips yet. Hopefully this summer.

Ashley Helmstaedter: Bring your own

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: We do not have food service at camp. byo

Audrey Logar: Kids bring their own lunches.

Donna Ludwig: We have always had BYO.

Kim Tuin: Our food pantry does free lunches at our camp. Kids can bring their own. We post in School bulletin and facebook sites, our website, and local paper

Craig Shevchik: How about snacks?

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: We have peanut free snacks in case someone forgets but they are to bring everything they consume.

Autumn Hawthorne: We provide free breakfast & lunch through partnership with our school districts & their USDA grants.

Ashley Helmstaedter: we provide 1 snack per day

Tom Steines: Bring their own

Nikki S.: BYO lunch and snacks at camp. The school district does offer a free lunch to kids that attend our free playground program

Kim Tuin: Our local Shop Rite--they do a healthy eating program and make a snack with the kids as a presentation. We have prepackaged pretzels if a child forgets their snack but they bring their own snacks

Amber Puccarelli: We don't provide lunch but we provide two snacks - last year we still were purchasing individually wrapped snacks

Christine Boud: The pool concession stand would make the food- a schedule will be sent out with what meal they will get. we charge \$5.00 a meal

Becky Richards Asst. Park Director: With food allergies, we have gone to BYO. When we did a few special events, we worked with parents in order for us to have an alternative if we had a pizza party, for example.

Ashley Helmstaedter: No we do not require it

Tom Steines: not required for our program

Nikki S.:Mechanicsburg - not requiring vaccination, not sure what our mask policy will be yet

Ashley Helmstaedter: We do not require mask, due to safety when over 80+ degrees

Erin Timby: not required for Upper Dublin

Amber Puccarelli: Hampton Township- not requiring vaccination - currently masks are optional

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: Thanks, all!

Kim Tuin: We didn't check vaccinations--kept 95% outside--started with masks for all then only inside--then optional toward the end based on CDC guidelines

Crystal Werkheiser: Not required, no masks outside but yes inside in Pocono Pines

Amber Puccarelli: I was wondering if anyone would be willingly to share any type of counselor in training program they have? I am looking to incorporate one!

Niki Tourscher: tour@prps.org

Kim Tuin: WEPOSC--Brodheads ville. Kim Tuin marckim4@ptd.net and include bkozen@weposc.org
My work email under construction

Audrey Logar: I think there is a session at conference on counselor training. Nikki is that right?

Amanda Sekanic: sekanic@twpusc.org for CIT questions!

Kim Tuin: We have grown our CIT program--see wonderful progression from campers becoming CITs and even one to Camp Counselor last year. Highly successful. We bring them in every other week to discuss things on what they did well, areas of improvement and getting their feedback.

Tom Steines: April?

Becky Richards Asst. Park Director: Before May, please

Walter Mulholland: one more before summer would be perfect

Audrey Logar: That would be great!

Donna Ludwig: April

Amber Puccarelli: Yes please!!!

Jeannette Zimmerman: Yes

Dan Hendey: <https://www.shibleydaycamp.com/summer-camp-jokes/>

Donna Ludwig: Thank you.

Amber Puccarelli: Thank you !!!

Newtown Township, Megan Prusienski: Thanks, all! Have a great day!

Becky Richards Asst. Park Director: Thank you!

Audrey Logar: Thank you!

Christine Boud: April

Becky Richards Asst. Park Director: Attending, thank you Kelsey!

Christine Boud: Thank you