



OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program – Session #1: Introduction

Please read the following information carefully

The mission of OSPREY Camp is to provide *Opportunities for Stewardship Promoting Respect for the Environment and Youth*. Through our Outdoor School, 5th & 6th grade students attend a multi-day/night camp experience, ranging from a 2-night/3-day week to a 4-night/5-day week, with their teacher and their class. The role of our **high school Mentor** is a vital component to our program. Through a competitive application process, high school students are screened, selected, and trained to ensure they are exemplary role models who can provide a safe and positive OSPREY Camp experience for our students.

The influence our Mentors have on our 5th & 6th grade students is profound. Our students look to their Mentors for guidance and direction. The success achieved by our students is in direct proportion to the enthusiasm shared, dedication shown, and positive attitude maintained by our Mentors. With the assistance of their Mentors and teachers, students study a variety of environmental and ecological concepts, via hands-on lessons and activities, and apply them to the natural world. Living onsite at OSPREY Camp provides a safe and supportive environment for the development of social, emotional, and life-learning skills. Along with the direct supervision and support of our adult OSPREY Camp Staff, Mentors provide hands-on care, behavior management, and supervision (24-hours a day) during their time at camp.

All high school students who successfully complete the *OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program* will earn **105 certified community service hours**. ***Kent School District Students Only:** High school students who successfully complete the *OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program* will be eligible to receive a **0.5 Career & Technical Education credit**. Students will gain valuable career exploration opportunities and hands-on learning experience while working directly with 5th grade students from the Kent School District community.

MENTOR TRAINING WEEKEND: To ensure our Mentors are thoroughly prepared, all applicants are required to attend our Mentor Training Weekend (MTW); an overnight, two-day training event. MTW will be held at OSPREY Camp on **Saturday, October 21st – Sunday, October 22nd, 2023**. MTW provides potential Mentors the opportunity to gain hands-on knowledge and experience in our instructional areas, learn exemplary teaching, communication, and leadership skills, participate in camp program activities, gain knowledge and experience in behavior management strategies, and better understand the active role our Mentors play in the overall success of our students and the OSPREY Camp program as a whole. **Please Note: You cannot attend a week of OSPREY Camp without attending Mentor Training Weekend. There are no exceptions.**

COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS: Mentors are not required to be vaccinated against COVID-19, but it is highly recommended. All OSPREY Camp Program/Facility/Kitchen Staff, OSPREY Camp Volunteer Staff, teachers, and guests are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (E.g., received the initial complete vaccination series).

COVID-19 TESTING: Mentors must take a rapid antigen COVID-19 test on their assigned arrival day and receive a negative test result in order to attend Mentor Training Weekend and their assigned camp week. **There are no exceptions.** **Further information will be provided at a later date.*



OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program – Session #1: Process

Please read the following information carefully

1. The first step in the application process is to submit a competitive application. This information provides the OSPREY Camp Staff with their first impression of you. Please, take the time to answer each question thoughtfully and thoroughly.
2. If you are selected during the first-round application process and invited to attend Mentor Training Weekend (MTW), please note MTW is the **next step** in the application process only. This does not guarantee you will be selected to attend a week of camp as a Mentor. Please plan on attending MTW and showing us the very BEST version of yourself!
3. Our final Mentor selection process is based on the *overall summary* of the following areas:
 - a. Submission of a thorough and competitive Mentor application.
 - b. Attending MTW *and* participating to the fullest extent.
 - c. A brief one-on-one interview during MTW.
 - d. OSPREY Camp Staff / Volunteer Staff interactions, observations, and evaluations of Mentors during MTW and/or previous experiences, interactions, and evaluations of Mentors during their time spent at OSPREY Camp.
 - e. Detailed Mentor evaluations provided by our OSPREY Camp Staff / Volunteer Staff throughout MTW.

FINAL MENTOR SELECTION: The final selection of Mentors will be determined by the OSPREY Camp Director and is non-negotiable. There are no exceptions.

It is very important for you to consider the demands this commitment will have on your time and any school/work/extracurricular responsibilities. Schoolwork is your responsibility to complete prior to attending OSPREY Camp or upon your return to school. We are counting on our selected Mentors to fulfill their obligations. It is your responsibility to communicate with your teachers, well in advance of your assigned camp week, and make any necessary arrangements. Please ensure you understand this information thoroughly before submitting your application.

MENTOR APPLICATION DUE DATE: Applications are due **no later than September 29th, 2023.** Please scan or take a clear picture of your completed application (pages 3-5 only) and email it to the OSPREY Camp Program Director, Mr. Grey Larson, at glarson@campschechter.org. ****You must have a faculty member's signature and a parent/guardian's signature before submitting your application.***

All applicants will be notified of their application status (E.g., selected, wait listed, or not selected) no later than October 6th, 2023. If you are selected to attend Mentor Training Weekend, or are placed on the wait list, you will also receive additional information at this time.



OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program – Session #1: Written Application

Name _____	School _____	Grade _____	
Gender _____	Pronouns _____	Age _____	GPA _____
Address _____			
City _____	Zip _____	Phone _____	
*Email _____			<i>*checked most often</i>
Dietary Needs / Food Allergies _____			

Briefly describe how you contribute to your community: (*E.g., volunteering; working with youth—sports, camps, church, babysitting; leadership positions held in school. etc.*)

Why do you want to be an OSPREY Camp Mentor? ****Please be specific. Use the backside for additional space if needed.***



OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program – Session #1: Available Camp Dates

The dates for **Session #1** are listed below. Please mark **each week you are available** to volunteer as a Mentor. Please double check your work/home/school schedules and responsibilities to ensure you are available for the weeks you select. Based on our Mentor needs, you will be assigned to one of your selected choices or put on our Wait List.

Please Note: Mentors arrive at camp on Monday evening of each assigned week.

___ **Week1:** November 7th – November 9th, 2023 *(Mentors arrive November 6th)

___ **Week2:** November 14th – November 16th, 2023 *(Mentors arrive November 13th)

___ **Week3:** December 5th – December 7th, 2023 *(Mentors arrive December 4th)

___ **Week4:** December 12th – December 14th, 2023 *(Mentors arrive December 11th)

FACULTY RECOMMENDATION

It is vital we have Mentors who are quality role models for our 5th & 6th grade students. Each applicant is required to have a faculty recommendation from their high school. The signature of this faculty member indicates the following high school student possesses the necessary characteristics to set a positive example for our students.

Faculty Member's Name _____

Position _____

I recommend _____ for the *OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program*.

Signature of Faculty Member _____ Date _____



OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program – Session #1: Required Signatures

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

I have thoroughly read the above information. I understand submitting my Mentor application does not guarantee I will be selected to attend Mentor Training Weekend and/or a week of OSPREY Camp. I understand attending Mentor Training Weekend is the next step in the application process only and does not guarantee I will be selected as a Mentor for a week of camp. I understand I may be placed on a **Wait List** and asked to attend Mentor Training Weekend and/or a week of OSPREY Camp with minimal notice, and I will plan accordingly. I understand I have a responsibility to follow through on *all communication* (email, text, phone) with OSPREY Camp Staff during the application process. I understand I must successfully complete the *OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program* in order to earn 105 community service hours or *0.5 CTE Credit (*Kent School District students only). **I understand the OSPREY Camp Director will have the final say in the selection of Mentors and the final say on completion of the OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program.**

Signature of Applicant

Date

PARENT / GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

I have thoroughly read the above information. My child has my permission to apply to the *OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program* to be a Mentor to 5th/6th grade students for a week of Outdoor School. I understand my child submitting a Mentor application does not guarantee they will be selected to attend Mentor Training Weekend and/or a week of OSPREY Camp. I understand attending Mentor Training Weekend is the next step in the application process only and does not guarantee my child will be selected as a Mentor for a week of camp. I understand my child may be placed on a **Wait List** and asked to attend Mentor Training Weekend and/or a week of OSPREY Camp with minimal notice, and I will assist my child in planning accordingly. I understand my child has a responsibility to follow through on all communication (email, text, phone) with OSPREY Camp Staff during the application process. I understand my child must successfully complete the *OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program* in order to earn 105 community service hours or *0.5 CTE Credit (*Kent School District students only). **I understand the OSPREY Camp Director will have the final say in the selection of Mentors and the final say on the completion of the *OSPREY Camp Mentorship Program*.**

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date