

Students Discover Academy

Student and Parent/Guardian Information Letter

WCPSS is pleased to host the Students Discover Academy. This opportunity is exclusively for students who will be entering 9th grade at either Knightdale High School of Collaborative Design or East Wake High School and is **completely free of charge!**

Students will participate in real-world science research, connect with scientists and other Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) professionals, participate in relevant field experiences, and explore how the different colleges/universities in Wake County can play a role in their high school to career pathway.

Here is what's afforded by this opportunity:

- 1) **Summer Academy** – a three week summer program where students will learn through Citizen Science modules that are connected to the NC Standard Course of Study. The program will run Tuesdays - Fridays, July 12-29 from 9:00 - 12:30. The three weeks will include:
 - a. Science research in varying fields and hands on lab investigations
 - b. Weekly field experiences at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences and working with scientists from the museum
 - c. Meeting STEM professionals and learning about different careers in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math
 - d. Transportation and lunch will be provided each day
- 2) **Saturday Academy** – Six Saturday sessions will be held to further engage students with scientists and for the students to see the link college/university plays in their career choices. Each Saturday session will include:
 - a. A visit to each of the six colleges/universities located in Wake County. Visits will be throughout the 2016-2017 school year
 - b. Interactions with scientists at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences
 - c. Transportation and lunch will be provided each of the six Saturdays
- 3) **Mentoring** - Trained volunteer mentors from STEM fields around Wake County will be assigned to meet with students once a month. The mentors will focus on the importance of attendance, excellent behavior and consistent study habits. Topics will also include STEM careers, college readiness, and goal setting.
- 4) **Parent/Guardian Sessions** – Parent sessions will be held over the course of the Students Discover Academy program. Parents will learn about the experiences their students are having during the summer and six Saturdays. Additionally, they will meet scientists from the program and representatives from the six colleges/universities located in Wake County.

As you can see, this is great opportunity for your child. If he/she has an interest in different fields of science and has college as a goal in mind, then we would love for him/her to apply for this program.

You can apply for the Students Discover Academy by going to studentsdiscover.org/academy or by filling out the application on the following page.

Return paper applications to your counselor by April 8, 2015.

Dive in. Discover. Do real science.



Student First and Last Name: _____

Student WCPSS ID Number: _____

Parent/Guardian First and Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____

T-shirt size: _____

What middle school do you attend? Please circle: Wendell MS or East Wake MS or Zebulon MS

What high school will you be attending next year? Please circle: KHSCD or EWHS

The Summer Academy will be held at Knightdale High School of Collaborative Design. Will free bus transportation be needed to and from school? Please circle:

Yes No Sometimes Unsure at this time

Please include the names of two teacher references and the subject they teach:

In the space below, describe your interest in the Students Discover Academy and why you would be a good candidate for this opportunity. Include items such as your career interests, your plans after graduating from high school, how you will benefit from attending both the Summer Academy and Saturday Academy programs.

Parent/Guardian Signature (*by signing your name in the space below, you approve of your child attending the Summer Academy and Saturday Academy programs*):

Today's Date: _____