

Staff & Students 2016



History of TREK

TREK started 11 years ago in 2005 whose original focus was to complete summer math and reading. The program was very popular with the incoming 6th grade for transition to the middle school. The program started at around 30 students, and grew over time with both the number of students and teachers needed for the enrichment. Over the years, the original focus was lost and the program changed to model more of a summer camp or summer school.

The TREK program was open to all sixth, seventh and eighth grade students. In order to accommodate all students, a “cap” was kept on sixth grade numbers to allow for enough room for the older grades to participate which detracted from the original purpose.

How TREK was different this year...

This year, we decided to return to the original goal that was set out at the inception of the program: **make it a transitional program to allow students coming into the middle school to feel adjusted and more comfortable in their surroundings for the fall.** Students were allowed to come in on fee waivers if they qualified for free & reduced lunch in order to make the program accessible to all students.

Synopsis (2016)



Student involvement:

123 Participants

2 students on DYC scholarships (one was incoming 6th grade, one was incoming 7th)

19 incoming 6th grade fee waivers

24 high school volunteers - all had to apply and go through a mini-interview process prior to starting with TREK

Teachers:

8 Teachers, 1 instructional assistant paid for by Special Education, 1 nurse

1 coordinator, 1 asst coordinator

What went on:

Class breakdown:

8 groups of students

2 reading classes - all classes read *Crash* by Jerry Spinelli and completed the writing component for summer reading

2 math classes - all classes worked on the TenMarks internet based program to complete the summer math component

1 creative writing class - students worked on various writing practices, including poems, short stories, literary mash ups, and how-to lists

2 STEM classes -

- One class focused on computer coding using the MIT program StarLogo Nova

- One class focused on building and hands-on including bridges, mazes, and egg drop containers

1 TREK-reation or gym/team building component - students focused on working as a team in addition to physical activities

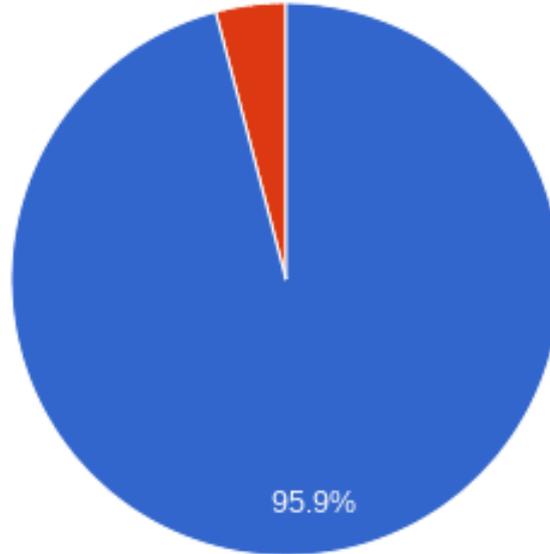


Typical schedule for a TREK student:

A day	8:15	9:10	10:25	11:20
Maple	Math - Podolski Library	Reading -Tapply DLL	Creative Writing - Prieto E227	STEM -(coding) Christopher W208
B day	8:15	9:10	10:25	11:20
Maple	Math-Noel M3	Reading-Murray Auditorium	TREKreation- Patterson Gym	STEM (building) - Carroll W205

We achieved our goal!

Do you feel ready for coming to middle school in the fall now that you came to TREK this summer?



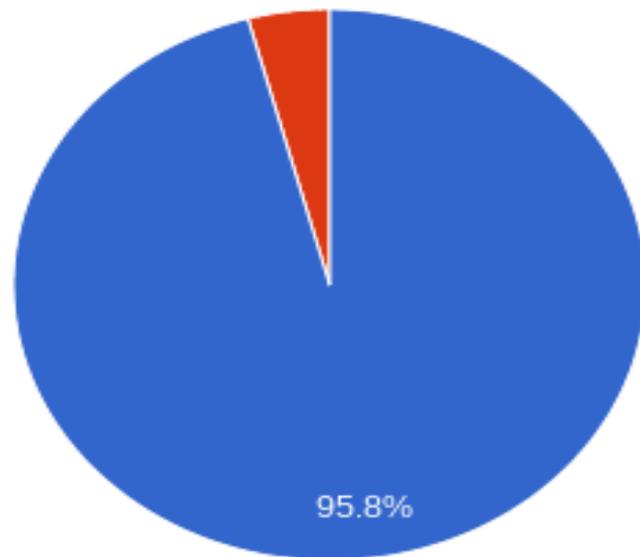
● Yes
● No

The data shown is based on **97 student responses**. The survey was given on the last day of TREK, through a Google Form.



Parents were in agreement as well

Count of Do you feel as though your child is more comfortable and ready to attend the middle school in the fall now that they attended the T...



- Yes, I feel they are more comfortable due to attending TREK.
- I am unable to determine if my child is more or less ready for the middle school.

Other notable aspects from the surveys

Students enjoyed all of the classes (to some degree) they attended.

Parents were happy with the administration, academic support, and overall program.

Parents (and students) were anywhere from satisfied to very satisfied to extremely satisfied to finish the summer math and reading assignments during the program. (Sixth grade teachers often find that the students anxiety levels are reduced due to this accomplishment.)

Optional student comments included the fact that they liked that they participated in various projects and activities, they could work with friends and meet new people, and meet their teachers as well as get familiar with

Recommendations for the coming years

Work with Special Education department to provide instructional assistants

Increase fee from \$350 to \$375 or \$390

Continue application process for volunteers

Begin a cutoff date for registration process (this wasn't needed before due to sheer volume of students registering)

If incoming sixth grader have access to their Google Drives, possibly include a Google Drive training course

