

Ripon Area School District

Press Release
January 4, 2008

For Immediate Release

The Ripon Area School District is taking steps to make its annual summer school program more family friendly. Historically a 5-week program in which classes have met five mornings a week, the District is scheduling its 2008 summer school as a 6-week program that meets only four days a week. No summer school classes will be held on Fridays this year. This change is being made to accommodate families who want to take long weekends, use Fridays for family daytrips, or just have more time for non-school activities.

The summer school program will begin on June 23 and end on July 31. Two class periods are scheduled for the morning program. Students may take one or two classes. The District is also stressing that absences due to family vacations or other youth activities are excused. "We don't want students to lose opportunities because of scheduling conflicts," explained Superintendent Richard Zimman. "Summer is a time for exploring and learning beyond the classroom, and we want to support that approach."

Swimming lessons are always a popular part of the District's summer school program, but no Friday classes will provide an opportunity for an additional family-oriented program. Friday mornings will feature an open swim program at the swimming pool.

In addition to Driver Education classes, the high school faculty is studying the possibility of offering some enrichment courses for students to take high-interest courses that won't fit into their normal school year schedule. Also, some one-semester required courses may be offered to allow students to complete those requirements during the summer so they have time to fit favorite courses into their schedules.

"The Ripon Board of Education asked the staff to look at ways of making our summer school program more exciting and more family-friendly. Many students and families want to customize their schooling, and we're trying to help them have the best summer and school year experiences possible," summarized Zimman.

Registration materials for the 2008 Ripon summer school program will be distributed later in the winter.

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