

To: Parent or Guardian of High School Science Academy Student

From: Nebraska Wildlife Rehab Staff

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are so excited to have the opportunity to work and learn with your student this year! Attached is a copy of this year's schedule for you so that you can follow along and plan your family's calendar. If you have any questions about the calendar, please contact our director, Laura Stastny, at education@nebraskawildliferehab.org or call her at 402-960-4366.

Your student will also be bringing home a permission slip and health form for the entire full-year program. Please be sure it's completed in full, and your student returns it at our October meeting.

Each month, students will meet twice – once on a Tuesday night for a lecture/activity to prepare them for the field or lab work, and then once again later in the week for the field or lab work on the topic we are studying. Students are expected to attend the Tuesday night session, and in most cases, will not be able to attend the field or lab work if they miss the Tuesday night session. If they have any questions about attendance or schedule conflicts, we encourage them to get in touch with us well in advance of the session. Please note that this is a full-year program and students are expected to attend most sessions.

In addition to our 7 monthly topics, students will have at least two additional opportunities this school year:

- An overnight trip to see the great sandhill crane migration in late March
- A 5-day/4-night trip to western Nebraska for advanced field work in the summer of 2019

At each meeting, we will provide food and/or snacks for the students. If your student has any dietary restrictions or allergies, please be sure to note them on the health form and ask your student to bring them to our attention. In most cases, it's simple for us to accommodate dietary restrictions if we are aware of them!

We can offer transportation to meetings for students in families who do not have their own transportation or have limited options for transportation. Please note that we are limited to the staff on hand and safety restrictions, so we can only pick-up and drop-off students at designated school sites.



We hope that by having the full schedule at the beginning of the year, you can plan accordingly to provide transportation for your student (either by driving them or having them drive themselves). We also encourage students to carpool with classmates (it's good for the environment)! However, if you are a family with limited transportation options, please be sure your student lets us know, so that we can help out as staffing permits!

Each month, you student will receive an e-mail approximately 10 days before the scheduled session. This e-mail will ask them to RSVP for both the lecture and field/lab work sessions and indicate if they need transportation assistance that month. Please encourage your student to answer promptly so that we can plan for food, dietary restrictions, activity supplies, and transportation considerations.

Thank you for helping us make this year go smoothly and for supporting your student's interest in biology! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at any time!

Looking forward to a fun and educational year,

Laura Stastny, Executive Director education@nebraskawildliferehab.org 402-960-4366

Matthew Cronin, Educator