

Dear Families,

Your student has expressed an interest in joining the ESCAPE Club at DeJean Middle School. The acronym "ESCAPE" stands for Environmental Science, Conservation, And Photographic Excursions. The club began in 1999, and this is its sixth year at DeJean. During that time, the club has taken well over 100 field trips. It is led by several teachers at DeJean including Mr. Iwawaki and Mr. Lau.

Some general information about the club:

- o We will be volunteering in community projects around campus at DeJean.
- o We meet each Thursday after school for about 1 hour, where we study ecology, geography, and environmental issues, and plan for trips. Students may stay later for optional activities.
- o We take approximately one field trip each month, usually free, usually on Saturdays.

Some things we try to emphasize in the club:

- o Community service, student responsibility and accountability at school and out in public.
- o Appreciation and understanding of the many natural wonders in Northern California.
- o Being part of, and getting along in groups, as well as developing new relationships.

Past destinations have included:

- o Monterey Bay Aquarium
- o Año Nuevo State Reserve
- o Point Reyes National Seashore
- o Yosemite National Park (overnight)
- o Marine Mammal Center
- o California Academy of Sciences
- o Slide Ranch Teaching Farm
- o Fort Point and Marin Headlands
- o Rock City on Mt. Diablo
- o Snow sledding in the Sierras

Students are responsible for community service assignments on campus as well as for attending after school meetings on Thursdays. **The first meeting is Thursday, September 17th.** Space is limited on field trips. Priority is given to students based on participation level. Each trip will have its own permission slip. Most trips have no cost to students. Transportation is usually by private car. Occasionally, we may need parents to drive. (Check the box below if you are interested.) Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

John Iwawaki
ESCAPE Club Coordinator
DeJean Middle School
jiwawaki@wccusd.net
cell: 510-439-7891

Check out our
website!
www.escapeclub.org



~~~~~

**STUDENTS: BRING THIS TO THE FIRST MEETING OR YOU CANNOT STAY!!!**

My student has my permission to:

(1) be in the ESCAPE Club and (2) stay after school on Thursdays until 3:45.

\_\_\_\_\_ student name

\_\_\_\_\_ grade

\_\_\_\_\_ your science teacher's name

\_\_\_\_\_ sci. period

\_\_\_\_\_ parent / guardian signature

I am interested in being a chaperone on a trip  
my email: \_\_\_\_\_