



September 2011

Dear Chango Third Grade Parents:

For the third year in a row, starting this October, we will be taking **all** third grade students to participate in swimming classes at the Shenendehowa pool (which is located near the middle school campus) as a part of Shenendehowa's elementary physical education curriculum. Each class will be scheduled to go to the pool two times a week for two weeks (for a total of four sessions) starting on 10/11.

All students will be picked-up from Chango and allowed 20 minutes for travel time to get bussed to the main campus. They will then change and have 45 minutes in the pool before they are given 15 minutes to change into their regular clothes and shower, if desired, and then they will catch the bus back to Chango.

Chango students will be going swimming on **Tuesday 10/11, Thursday 10/13, Tuesday 10/18, and Thursday 10/20.**

On 10/11 and 10/13- Mr. Jackson and Ms. Parker's classes will
Leave Chango at 9:15am
Mr. Donnelly and Ms. Cocozzo's classes will
Leave Chango at 10:15am

On 10/18 and 10/20- Mr. Donnelly and Ms. Cocozzo's classes will
Leave Chango at 9:15am
Mr. Jackson and Ms. Parker's classes will
Leave Chango at 10:15am

The goals of Shenendehowa's Aquatic Program are to:

- Enhance a child's swimming proficiency and water confidence
- Instruct students how to effectively react during an emergency situation
- Obtain knowledge in various aquatic activities
- Introduce a water safety component with each lesson
- Have fun

REQUIREMENTS

Your child will be required to bring the following items to class

- A bathing suit
 - Girls must wear one-piece bathing suits (tankinis are okay)
- A clean towel
- A plastic bag to transport wet clothing/towels, EACH DAY

Additionally, your child may bring the following items if they prefer:

- Shower shoes, flip-flops, or Crocs

- Personal soap or shampoo
- White tee shirts- These may be worn in the pool in addition to a swimsuit as long as they do not interfere with student safety.
- Swim caps or goggles

Here is some general information about the swimming unit...

- **There will be appropriate supervision of students in each of the locker rooms and in the pool- With a female and male physical educator, an aide or aides depending on the number of students and their needs, and an aquatics coordinator to assist.**
- **A certified American Red Cross Lifeguard(s) will be on duty at all times during pool hours**
- **Students will be water-tested the first day of the aquatic unit to determine skill level. Based on their ability level and/or their nature of being comfortable in water, students may be allowed and/or required to wear a life jacket for their safety, if needed.**
- Students will be required to adhere to all pool rules at all times.
- Classes will be heterogeneously grouped; meaning both boys and girls will use the pool at the same time.
- Students will stay in their assigned area unless otherwise directed by their teacher.
- Lockers will be provided to all students during their scheduled pool time ONLY. All belongings are to be taken home at the completion of each swim lesson. Any belongings left at the end of each day will be collected by the physical education teacher.
- Students will be given time after swimming to shower/rinse off in the showers if they so choose.
- There are several locations in the locker room for students to change where their privacy will not be impacted (corners, the bathroom stalls, etc.)
- Personal hair-dryers are NOT permitted. Hand-mounted drying units are available and EASILY ACCESSIBLE.
- Students may choose to wear their bathing suits to school **under their regular clothes** on pool days if they prefer as for some this is easier, but this is not necessary or mandatory.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation and support. We are really excited to be able to offer this program to students and we are looking forward to a great experience for all regardless of swimming level or ability. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email. I will also be in attendance at the 3rd Grade Open House Night on 10/5 at 7:15pm to answer any questions in person that may arise.

Sincerely,
Coach Alaina Fersch and Coach Dan Cafarelli
fersalai@shenet.org PE Office: 881-0527