



DEBRA KUBIN, SUPERINTENDENT

Gifted & Talented Education Program

Alisa Weselsky, GATE Specialist

Adult School, Room 8 – 1056 N. Bush St. – (707) 463-5222 – aweselsky@uusd.net - <http://uusdgate.weebly.com/>

GATE Parent Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2017 - Ukiah Unified School District Service Center, 5:30pm-6:30pm

1. New GATE Location and Number

My office has been moved to a classroom at the Ukiah Adult School (room 8), where we will be doing difference student activities. My phone number has also changed from previous years and is now 463-5222. If you have permission slips to drop off, you can still take them to the Ukiah Unified District Service Center or the Ukiah Adult School.

2. Aeries Parent Portal

Please make sure you have created an Aeries Parent Portal account and that all of your information is up to date. This information is how you will receive information from me. If you are unsure about how to create an account, please meet with the Parent Lesion at your child's school.

3. Remind 101

I will be using this program to inform and remind you of different information about GATE. This program allows me to send you texts messages with important information. I have created a general group for our GATE program. To opt-in to this group you simply need to text message @uusdgate to the number 81010 and you will automatically be part of the group. I will also create different codes and groups for each event or field trip we go on. This way I can communicate with you easily while I am away from my desk with your students.

4. Event Timeline

We have many new events this year, please review the timeline for the school year.

5. GATE Academy

Our second annual GATE Academy will be held on Saturday, October 14th, 2017 from 8:00am-12:00pm at Ukiah High School. You will need to complete a permission slip and Authorization to Consent to Treatment of Minor for your GATE student to join in this event. Permission slips are due by September 29th, you can turn your permission slip in to the Ukiah Unified School District Service Center or Ukiah Adult School.

6. Elementary After School Enrichment Days

This year I will be hosting four after school elementary enrichment days. All of these enrichment days will be held at the Ukiah Adult School in



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Room 8 from 3:15pm-5:15pm. Once I have specifics for activities for each day I will post them to our website (<http://uusdgate.weebly.com/>). Please check our website often for updates.

7. Odyssey of the Mind

We are looking for coaches to help with Odyssey of the Mind teams. If you are interested in coaching a team, please let me know as soon as possible. I will be preparing all spontaneous practice problems and materials for teams.

8. Science Fair

Our second annual district science fair will be held on February 1st and 2nd at the Ukiah Valley Conference Center. Science fair is not required, but is highly recommended for our GATE students. Science fair is for all students and not just GATE students. For more information, please refer to the website <http://uusdsciencefair.weebly.com/>

9. Field Trips

Our first field trip will be Friday, November 3rd, 2017 to the Exploratorium in San Francisco. This field trip is for all GATE students 3rd-12th grades. Our second field trip will be on Tuesday, March 13th, 2018 at Luther Burbank Center to see the performance "The Giver". This trip will be for middle school GATE students only. Our third field trip will be Thursday, April 19th, 2018 to see "Mr. Popper's Penguins" at the Luther Burbank Center. This trip will be for elementary school GATE students only. More information about each trip will be mailed home as well as on our website (<http://uusdgate.weebly.com/>).



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GATE Parent Meeting Agenda

September 11, 2017 - Ukiah Unified School District Service Center, 5:30pm-6:30pm

1. Introductions

- a. Chris Miller
- b. Alisa Weselsky

2. New GATE Location and Number

- a. Ukiah Adult School, Room 8
- b. 463-5222

3. Aeries Parent Portal

4. Remind 101

- a. Important messages
- b. Field trips

5. Event Timeline

6. GATE Academy

- a. Saturday, October 14th, 2017
- b. 8:00am-12:00pm
- c. Permission slips due September 29th

7. Elementary After School Enrichment Days

8. Odyssey of the Mind

9. Science Fair

- a. February 1st and 2nd, 2018
- b. Ukiah Valley Conference Center
- c. Student/Parent Information Nights

10. Field Trips

- a. 11/3/17 – Exploratorium – All GATE Students
- b. 3/13/18 – “The Giver”, Luther Burbank Center – Middle School
- c. 4/19/18 – “Mr. Popper’s Penguins, Luther Burbank Center – Elementary



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Student/Parent GATE Event Timeline for the 2017-2018 School Year

September:

11th – Parent Information Meeting (all GATE parents) – District Service Center, 5:30pm-6:30pm

October:

14th – GATE Academy (elementary & middle) – Ukiah High School, 8:00am-12:00pm

24th – GATE Afterschool Enrichment Day (elementary) – Ukiah Adult School Room 8, 3:15pm-5:15pm

November:

3rd – Exploratorium Field Trip (all GATE students)

15th – Science Fair Information Night (all students and parents) – Ukiah Adult School Room 8, 4:30pm-6:30pm

December:

12th - GATE Afterschool Enrichment Day (elementary) – Ukiah Adult School Room 8, 3:15pm-5:15pm

13th - Science Fair Information Night (all students and parents) – Ukiah Adult School Room 8, 4:30pm-6:30pm

January:

24th - Science Fair Information Night (all students and parents) – Ukiah Adult School Room 8, 4:30pm-6:30pm

29th - Parent Information Meeting (all GATE parents) – District Service Center, 5:30pm-6:30pm

February:

1st & 2nd – District Science Fair (all students) – Ukiah Valley Conference Center
(<http://uusdsciencefair.weebly.com/>)

24th – Redwood Region Odyssey of the Mind Tournament – Santa Rosa

March:

6th - GATE Afterschool Enrichment Day (elementary) – Ukiah Adult School Room 8, 3:15pm-5:15pm

13th – Field Trip “The Giver” (middle) – Luther Burbank Center, Santa Rosa

17th – Mendocino County Science Fair – Mendocino College

April:

19th – Field Trip “Mr. Popper’s Penguins” (elementary) – Luther Burbank Center, Santa Rosa

30th - Parent Information Meeting (all GATE parents) – District Service Center, 5:30pm-6:30pm

May:

15th - GATE Afterschool Enrichment Day (elementary) – Ukiah Adult School Room 8, 3:15pm-5:15pm



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Calendario de Eventos para Estudiantes/Padres GATE para el año escolar 2017-2018

Septiembre:

11 – Junta Informativa Para Padres (todos padres GATE) – Oficina Central del Distrito Escolar de Ukiah, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Octubre:

14 – Academia GATE (primaria y secundaria) – Ukiah High School, 8:00am-12:00pm

24 – Día de Enriquecimiento GATE Después de Clases (primaria) – Escuela de Adultos en Ukiah, Salón 8, 3:15pm-5:15pm

Noviembre:

3 – Excursión al Exploratorium (todos estudiantes GATE)

15 – Noche Informativa de la Feria de la Ciencia (todos estudiantes y padres) – Escuela de Adultos en Ukiah, Salón 8, 4:30pm-6:30pm

Diciembre:

12 – Día de Enriquecimiento GATE Después de Clases (primaria) – Escuela de Adultos en Ukiah, Salón 8, 3:15pm-5:15pm

13 – Noche Informativa de la Feria de la Ciencia (todos estudiantes y padres) – Escuela de Adultos en Ukiah, Salón 8, 4:30pm-6:30pm

Enero:

24 – Noche Informativa de la Feria de la Ciencia (todos estudiantes y padres) – Escuela de Adultos en Ukiah, Salón 8, 4:30pm-6:30pm

29 – Junta Informativa Para Padres (todos padres GATE) – Oficina Central del Distrito Escolar de Ukiah, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Febrero:

1 & 2 – Feria de la Ciencia del Distrito Escolar (todos estudiantes) – Ukiah Valley Conference Center (<http://uusdsciencefair.weebly.com/>)

24 – Redwood Region Odyssey of the Mind Tournament – Santa Rosa

Marzo:

6 – Día de Enriquecimiento GATE Después de Clases (primaria) – Escuela de Adultos en Ukiah, Salón 8, 3:15pm-5:15pm

13 – Excursión “The Giver” (secundaria) – Luther Burbank Center, Santa Rosa

17 – Feria de la Ciencia del Condado de Mendocino – Colegio de Mendocino

Abril:

19 – Excursión “Mr. Popper’s Penguins” (primaria) – Luther Burbank Center, Santa Rosa

30 – Junta Informativa Para Padres (todos padres GATE) – Oficina Central del Distrito Escolar de Ukiah, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Mayo:

15 – Día de Enriquecimiento GATE Después de Clases (primaria) – Escuela de Adultos en Ukiah, Salón 8, 3:15pm-5:15pm



Sign up for important updates from Alisa Weselsky.

Get information for UUSD GATE Program right on your phone—not on handouts.

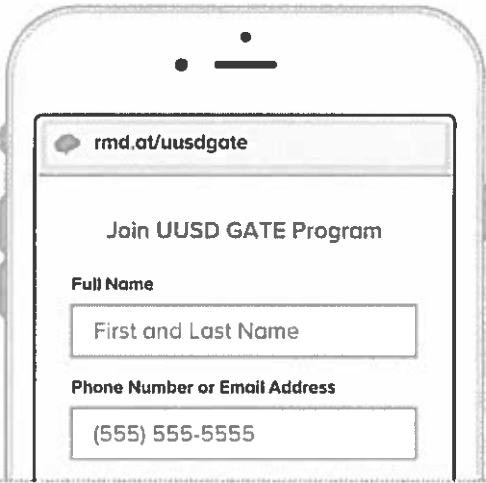
Pick a way to receive messages for UUSD GATE Program:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/uusdgate

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.




B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @uusdgate to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @uusdgate to (516) 506-0931.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/uusdgate on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.



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GATE Academy - Student Information

Saturday, October 14th, 2017 - Ukiah High School

Ukiah Unified School District will be organizing a one-day enrichment event for Elementary and Middle School GATE students. The GATE Academy will be a day for gifted students to go beyond the core curriculum and join sessions that complement their individual talents and interests. This year we will focus on two main themes for sessions, STEM activities and activities relating to the arts.

We would love for your child to join us for this exciting event! Below is the schedule for the day. More information about specific class sessions will be coming out soon, however we first need to know how many students are planning to attend.

If your child is interested, please complete the following permission slip and return it to your school site by September 29th, 2017. You can also return the permission slip to the Ukiah Unified School District Service Center or the Ukiah Adult School.

The event will be scheduled from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and will include an introduction, two 90-minute student sessions, and a break with snack included.

GATE Academy Schedule:

8:00-8:30 - Check-in at Ukiah High School

8:30-10:00 - Session 1

10:00-10:30 - Break (a light snack will be provided or you are free to bring your own)

10:30-12:00 - Session 2

12:00 - Student Pick-Up

If you have any questions, please contact Alisa Weselsky at aweselsky@uusd.net or 463-5222.

Thank you,

Alisa Weselsky



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Academia GATE - Información

Sábado, 14 de octubre, 2017 - Ukiah High School

El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Ukiah estará organizando un evento de enriquecimiento de un día para los estudiantes GATE que están en la primaria y la secundaria. La Academia GATE será un día en que los estudiantes dotados puedan ir más allá del currículo regular y participar en sesiones que complementan sus talentos e intereses individuales. Este año el enfoque de las sesiones será en dos temas, actividades STEM y actividades relacionadas con las artes.

¡Nos encantaría que su hijo participara en este evento! Abajo está el horario para el día. Más información sobre sesiones específicas vendrá próximamente, sin embargo primero necesitamos saber cuántos estudiantes están planeando asistir.

Si su estudiante está interesado, por favor complete la forma de permiso que sigue y devuélvala a su escuela para el 29 de SEPTIEMBRE, 2017. También puede devolver la forma de permiso a la oficina central del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Ukiah o a la oficina de la Escuela de Adultos de Ukiah.

El evento será de las 8:00 a.m. hasta las 12:00 p.m. e incluirá una introducción, dos sesiones de 90 minutos para los estudiantes, y una pausa con bocadillo incluido.

Horario para la Academia GATE:

8:00-8:30 - Registro de Llegada en Ukiah High

8:30-10:00 - Sesión 1

10:00-10:30 - Pausa (se proporcionará un bocadillo o puede llevar su propio bocadillo)

10:30-12:00 - Sesión 2

12:00 - Recogida de los estudiantes

Si usted tiene preguntas, por favor póngase en contacto con Alisa Weselsky al aweselsky@uUSD.net o 463-5222.

Gracias,

Alisa Weselsky



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GATE Academy - Student Registration

Saturday, October 14th, 2017 - Ukiah High School

The event will be scheduled from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and will include an introduction, two 90-minute student sessions, and a break with snack included.

The following permission slip must return to your school site by September 29th, 2017. You can also return the permission slip to the Ukiah Unified School District Service Center or Ukiah Adult School.

_____ Yes my child will be attending the GATE Academy on Saturday, October 14th, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Student Full Name (first and last): _____

Student School: _____

Student Grade (3rd-8th grades): _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Number: _____

Parent Signature: _____

In Case of Emergency Contact: _____

In Case of Emergency Number: _____



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Academia GATE - Registración

Sábado, 14 de octubre, 2017 - Ukiah High School

El evento será de las 8:00 a.m. hasta las 12:00 p.m. e incluirá una introducción, dos sesiones de 90 minutos para los estudiantes, y una pausa con bocadillo incluido.

La siguiente forma de permiso se debe regresar a su escuela para el 29 de SEPTIEMBRE, 2017. También puede devolverla a la oficina central del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Ukiah o a la Escuela de Adultos de Ukiah.

_____ Si, mi hijo asistirá a la Academia GATE el sábado, 14 de octubre, 2017, de las 8:00 a.m. hasta las 12:00 p.m.

Nombre del Estudiante (primero y apellido): _____

Escuela del Estudiante: _____

Grado: _____

Nombre del Padre: _____

Número de Teléfono: _____

Firma del Padre: _____

Persona De Contacto En Caso De Emergencia: _____

Número De Teléfono En Caso de Emergencia: _____

AUTHORIZATION TO CONSENT TO TREATMENT OF MINOR
AUTORIZACION DE CONSENTIMIENTO PARA TRATAMIENTO DE UN MENOR

(I) (We), the undersigned, parent(s) of Ukiah Unified School District, a minor, do hereby authorize _____ as agent(s) for the undersigned to consent to an X-ray examination, anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment and hospital care which is deemed advisable by, and is to be rendered under the general or special supervision of, any physician and surgeon licensed under the provisions of the Medical Practice Act on the medical staff of any hospital, whether such diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said physician or at said hospital.

It is understood that this authorization is given in advance of any specific diagnosis, treatment or hospital care being required but is given to provide authority and power on the part of our aforesaid agent(s) to give specific consent to any and all such diagnosis, treatment or hospital care which aforementioned physician in the exercise of his/her best judgment may deem advisable.

This authorization is given pursuant to the provisions of Section 25.8 of the Civil code of California.

(I) (We), hereby authorize any hospital which has provided treatment to the above-named minor pursuant to the provisions of Section 25.8 of the Civil Code of California to surrender physical custody of such minor to (my) (our) above-named agent(s) upon the completion of treatment. This authorization is given pursuant to Section 1283 of the Health and Safety Code of California.

(Yo) (Nosotros), los firmantes, padre/madre, padres de _____, un(a) menor, por la presente autorizo (autorizamos) a _____ como agente(s) para los firmantes para que den su consentimiento para cualquier examen de rayos X, anestesia, diagnóstico o tratamiento médico o de cirugía y cuidado de hospital que sea aconsejable por, y que ha de ser prestado bajo la supervisión general o especial de cualquier médico o cirujano autorizado bajo las provisiones del Estatuto del Ejercicio de la Medicina en el personal médico o en el hospital.

Se sobreentiende que esta autorización de cualquier diagnóstico específico, tratamiento o cuidado de hospital que sea necesario, se está haciendo para proveer autorización y poder de parte del agente(s) mencionado(s) para dar consentimiento específico para cualquier y todos dichos diagnósticos, tratamiento o cuidado de hospital que el doctor mencionado anteriormente, ejerciendo su mayor criterio crea conveniente.

Esta autorización es dada de acuerdo con las provisiones de la Sección 25.8 del Código Civil de California.

(Yo) (Nosotros), por este medio autorizamos a cualquier hospital que haya provisto tratamiento al menor mencionado arriba de acuerdo con las porvisiones de la Sección 25.8 del Código Civil de California, entregar la custodia física de tal menor a (mi) (nuestro) agente(s) mencionado(s) arriba, cuando se haya completado el tratamiento. Esta autorización es dada de acuerdo a la Sección 1283 del Código de Salud y Seguridad de California.

These authorizations shall remain effective until/Esta autorización efectiva hasta June 7th, 2018, unless sooner revoked in writing delivered to said agent(s) la menos que se revoque por escrito a dicho agente(s).

DATE/FECHA

PARENT OR GUARDIAN/PADRE O GUARDIAN

WITNESS/TESTIGO

Child's Birthdate/Fecha de Nacimiento del Niño(a): _____

Child's Doctor/Doctor del Niño(a): _____

Child's Dentist/Dentista del Niño(a): _____

Name and Number of medical Insurance Policy/Nombre y Número de la Póliza de Seguro Médico: _____

Chronic Illnesses/Enfermedades Crónicas: _____

Insured's Name/Nombre del Asegurado: _____

Medications (if long term)/Medicamentos (si usados por mucho tiempo): _____

Allergies/Alergias: _____

Last Tetanus/Ultima Vacuna para el Tétano: _____

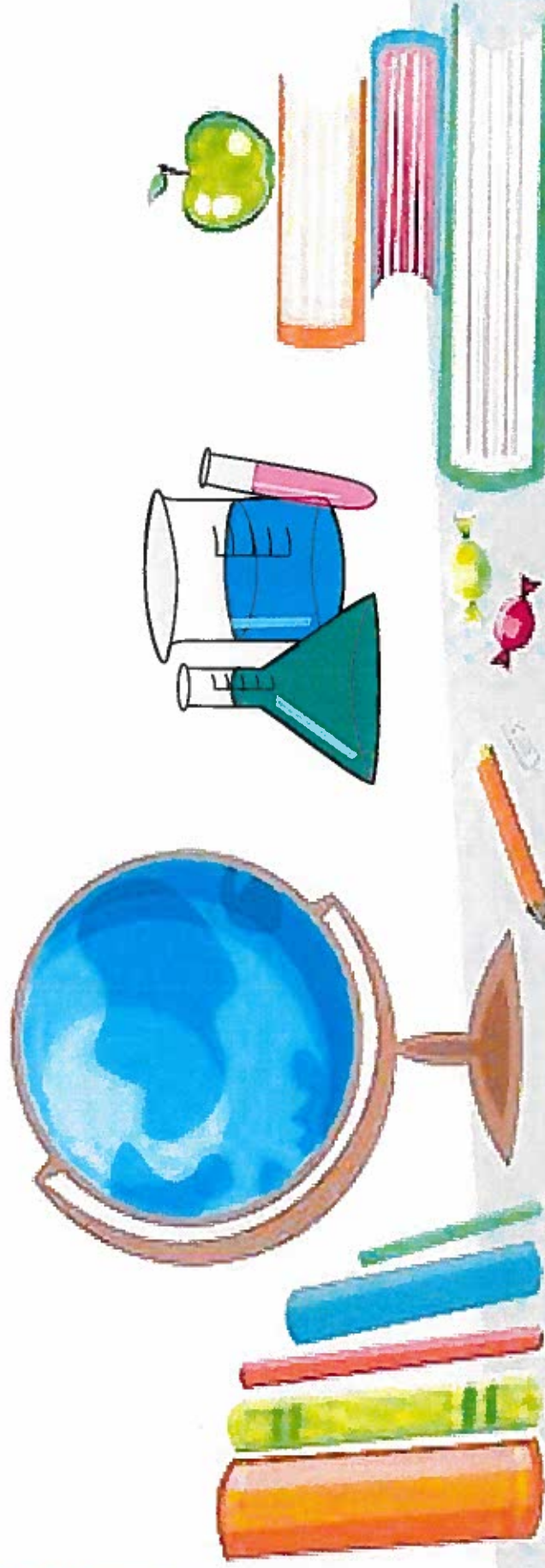
THIS AUTHORIZATION IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR PAST DATE WRITTEN
ESTA AUTORIZACION ES VALIDA POR UN AÑO DESDE LA FECHA EN QUE FUE ESCRITA

GATE AFTER SCHOOL SCHOOL ENRICHMENT DAYS

Please join us for our first ever Elementary GATE Enrichment Days! There will be four days throughout the year in which elementary (3rd-6th grade) GATE students are invited to come and explore different enrichment activities. These activities may include art, STEM, and/or other related projects. All GATE Enrichment Days will be held afterschool, in the new GATE room located at the Ukiah Adult School Room 8 (1056 N. Bush St.).

- Tuesday, October 24th, 2017 – 3:15pm-5:15pm – Ukiah Adult School Room 8
- Tuesday, December 12th, 2017 – 3:15pm-5:15pm – Ukiah Adult School Room 8
- Tuesday, March 6th, 2018 – 3:15pm-5:15pm – Ukiah Adult School Room 8
- Tuesday, May 15th, 2018 – 3:15pm-5:15pm – Ukiah Adult School Room 8

If your student is interested in attending any of these dates, please reserve their spot at least one week prior to the event date above. You can reserve a spot by either calling or emailing Alisa Weselsky at aweselsky@uusd.net or 463-5222.





Odyssey of the Mind®

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program.

What makes Odyssey different?

Odyssey of the Mind is a competitive program, but it's nothing like your typical sporting event. The competitive element encourages kids to be the best that they can be, but it's a friendly competition. Kids learn from and even cheer on their competitors. Odyssey of the Mind is not a college bowl or a competition about knowledge. It's all about creativity, an often overlooked element in the growth and development of many students. Kids are rewarded more for how they apply their knowledge, skills and talents, and not for coming up with the right answer. In fact, in Odyssey of the Mind problems, there isn't one right answer. Ever.

How do students benefit from participation?

In Odyssey of the Mind, students learn at a young age skills that will last a lifetime. They work in teams so they learn cooperation and respect for the ideas of others. They evaluate ideas and make decisions on their own, gaining greater self-confidence and increased self-esteem along the way. They work within a budget, so they learn to manage their money. They see that there's often more than one way to solve a problem, and that sometimes the process is more important than the end result.

Why Odyssey of the Mind?

Odyssey of the Mind is an international creative problem-solving program that engages students in their learning by allowing their knowledge and ideas to come to life in an exciting, productive environment. Participants build self-confidence, develop life skills, create new friendships, and are able to recognize and explore their true potential. OotM proves that students can have fun while they learn.

Innovative Problems that Teach Creativity

Odyssey problems have challenged students to design mechanical dinosaurs, invent new factory machinery, build working vehicles, write a new chapter to Moby Dick, put a twist on classic artworks, turn Pandora's Box into a video game, and so much more. Since 1978, OotM problems have challenged students to go beyond conventional thinking and incorporate creative problem solving in learning. Creative Problem Solving is a skill that needs to be nurtured and developed. While a conventional education is important, learning to solve problems creatively and confidently gives them an important edge in their education and career goals. There is creativity inside each of us and OotM teaches how to tap into it so it can be applied to real-world problems.

Pioneers in Education Standards...

From the start, OotM recognized the importance of many of the skills now emphasized in education today such as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. The program combines that with history and art and has encouraged learning these subjects through the Classics and performance problems.

...With a twist

All OotM solutions require students to perform, not just the sciences, but the arts as well – whether it be set-building, costume-making, creating props, acting, singing, or playing an instrument. These skills are important to create a balanced education. Because they are doing something fun, students are eager to perform and develop self-confidence and public speaking skills along the way. Many participants credit their success to Odyssey of the Mind. Because different elements are involved within each problem, OotM brings together kids with varying interests that often form life-long friendships.

How does it work?

Schools or community groups purchase a membership and form teams of up to seven students. Each team chooses one of five competitive problems to solve. The problems appeal to a wide range of interests; some are technical in nature, while others are artistic or performance-oriented. Under the guidance of an adult coach, teams work on their solutions throughout the school year and, if they choose, present them in organized competitions in the spring. The "friendly" competitive aspect encourages students to be the best that they can be.

How Does OotM Enhance Education?

- Teaches creative problem solving.
- Introduces hands-on learning.
- Builds confidence.
- Rewards risk taking.
- Emphasizes teamwork skills.
- Helps form lifelong friendships.
- Incorporates the arts into education.
- Teaches time & financial budgeting.
- Applies personal interests to learning.
- Engages students in their education.
- Emphasizes important job skills.
- Makes learning fun!

How are teams judged in competition?

Thousands of volunteers from around the world judge the competitions and serve in various positions to help make the tournaments a success. Teams are scored for their long-term problem solution, how well they solve a "spontaneous" problem on the spot, and "style" -- the elaboration of their long-term problem solution.

2017-18 Long-Term Problem Synopses*

Tentative as of April 28, 2017. All problems have an 8-minute time limit.

Problem 1: Triathlon Travels

On your mark...get set...go! In this problem, teams will ride on and drive original vehicles in an Odyssey-style triathlon. They will try to score in “curling,” hit the right targets when “jousting,” and “run track” by navigating a course in two directions. Between these events, the team will entertain the audience and the vehicle will change appearance. All of the action will take place in a team-created performance that features the vehicles’ triathlon travels, a commentator, and a coach. *Divisions I, II, III & IV*

Problem 2: Emoji, Speak for Yourself

Three-dimensional emojis will be used to communicate the life story of a once famous, but now forgotten, emoji. Teams will create a performance where the emojis demonstrate special functions like growing, turning into a team member, and changing into a different emoji. Performances will also include a choreographed dance, a technical representation of texting, and sounds to enhance the performance. The twist? No spoken language is allowed. *Divisions I, II, & III*

Problem 3: *Classics... Mockumentary! Seriously?*

There are often two sides to the same story. In this problem, characters don’t always agree as they recount the classic story where they appeared. The team will select a classic from a list and present different characters in a humorous documentary-style performance where details are added, denied, exaggerated, and disputed. There will be interviews, behind-the-scenes “clips,” and voice-overs that take the audience through the story and help present the events as they “really” took place. Whose side will you be on? *Divisions I, II, III & IV*

Problem 4: Animal House

Over the years, Odyssey of the Mind teams have designed structures that changed into many unbelievable shapes and sizes that balanced and held as much weight as possible. This year, teams will turn their balsa wood structures into animals! Since animals need to eat, they must be fed. The structure will have its appearance transformed and explained during an original performance. During the performance, the structure must hold the team-created food while it supports weights. *Divisions I, II, III & IV*

Problem 5: A Stellar Hangout

In the outreaches of the universe, there is an Intergalactic Hangout where all sorts of creatures from different worlds stop, eat, refuel, and relax. Teams will create a humorous performance centered on this science fiction hangout that includes original creatures, foods, and a search for space treasure. There will also be a worker character, entertainment, and a futuristic map at the hangout. *Divisions I, II, III & IV*

Primary: We’re Cooking Now

Creativity heats up as teams create their own cooking show where a chef gives an original cooking lesson to a special guest. The show takes place from a creative kitchen where balsa wood is used to support a cookbook, a bowl, and an object of the team’s choosing. A special guest will visit and learn to cook from the chef by using team-created representations of food. Performances will also include a name for the show, theme music, and a story about the meal they are cooking. *Grades K-2*

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Odyssey of the Mind

Types of Problems

Odyssey of the Mind is the place to go where it's fun to look for problems. Our problems are not 'practical'. We do not teach OMers how to solve A Problem, we teach them how to be Problem Solvers! Each year, we release six original Long Term Problems – five competitive problems for students from kindergarten through college and one primary problem for K-2nd graders. Each problem is original, contains a few limitations to work within, and lists scoring categories. There are two types of "problems" in Odyssey of the Mind: Long-Term Problems and Spontaneous Problems. To learn more about Our Problems please keep reading. If you're looking for a description of the current problems you'll find it here. Here is a link to past problems.

Long Term Problems

Long-Term Problems are the engine that propels Odyssey of the Mind. Teams select their problem when they join the program and spend weeks or months to create and develop their solution. Each team member will find a role to play in the many stages of problem-solving including brainstorming, artwork, set design, technical design, writing sketches and much more! The solutions are presented in a live performance. Thousands of teams from all over the world will select and solve the same problem but no two solutions are ever the same! Everyone learns to think Beyond the Box. Long Term problems are different every year but they fall into general categories:

① Vehicle



Problem #1 — Traveling through creative courses, hitting targets, delivering parts, and carrying teammates “across the sky” or “under the seas” are some of the tasks completed by original team-made “vehicles. Teams use unusual sources of energy and original engineering to create vehicles that often don't look or move like a vehicle. OMers perform an original skit that usually includes characters and special effects but the emphasis is on the running and testing of the vehicle.

② Technical



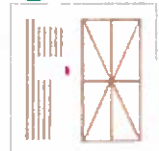
Problem #2 – Creating a robotic pet, a Not-So-Haunted pop-up House, and rubber band powered devices are technical problems our teams have solved. The level of technology is up to the team and ranges from basic engineering and electronics to more advanced robotics. Technical devices have served purposes that include producing special effects, delivering mail and improving the lives of people in need. OMers test their devices in performances that are often hilarious.

③ Classics



Problem #3 – Imagine turning the story of Pandora's Box into a video game or creating an original Lost Labor of Heracles. In our Classics problem Teams write and perform original theatrical performances based on a work from classical literature, artwork, music, culture, or history. Subjects range from bringing the past to life to revisiting and rewriting history, all while OMers learn about world history. Solutions often reflect upon the majesty and sophistication of humanity's most impactful and enduring creations.

④ Structure



Problem #4 – Picture a 15-gram (½ ounce) structure made of balsa wood holding and balancing a stack of weights while getting rammed, twisted, or even broken apart. Each year a new problem requires an original structure to withstand a new test of strength as it holds weight until it breaks. It’s not uncommon for experienced teams to hold over 1,000 pounds. OMers create and present performances ranging from comical to extravagant where testing their structures is part of the action.

⑤ Performance



Problem #5 – Whether it is showing the world from the point of view of an animal, acting out a Food Court where all of the characters in a courtroom are food, or showing social outcasts saving the planet, you can be sure that our performance problem will be fun and unexpected. In their solutions teams integrate stage and drama elements from lighting effects to puppetry to elaborate set changes. Original characters and unusual situations give OMers plenty of opportunity to show off their creativity.

⑥ Primary (K-2)



Primary Problem – Teams might present their very own prehistoric art festival or a skit where a character keeps waking up in a different place and time. Teams present their solutions at tournaments in a non-competitive showcase where they interact with judges who provide feedback. Primary problems are designed to provide younger OMers with a comprehensive, fun, and instructional experience that helps introduce them to Odyssey of the Mind.

Spontaneous Problems

These are not solved over a long term. They are not solved in a short term. They are solved instantly using spontaneous creativity. Teams practice and prepare for the Spontaneous experience but the actual Spontaneous Problem they will solve is not revealed to them until they walk into the room to solve the problem! Spontaneous develops quick thinking, creativity, teamwork, and the ability to deal with the unexpected which are all important educational aspects of Odyssey of the Mind. Teams receive a copy of their problem and are allowed to ask questions during their competition time.

Spontaneous Problems come from three general categories:

Verbal

Verbal Spontaneous Problems require teams to give verbal, spoken responses to questions or prompts, and those responses are scored according to how creative (or common) they seem to trained judges in the room. For example, teams might be asked, “Name things that are green,” or could be given random household items and asked to present a skit based on the premise, “When it rains, the strangest thing happens, I…” Teams are usually given just a few minutes to think and then asked to provide their solutions.

Hands-On

Hands-On Spontaneous Problems require different levels of physical interaction among team members to solve. Generally, a hands-on spontaneous problem will challenge the teams to move, build, or to use provided items to complete a task. Examples of “Hands On” problems range from building a bridge out of random items that extends as far as possible to creating a device to move different balls different distances and into scoring containers, and devising a system of communication using random objects. For Hands On problems, teams are often given a few minutes to devise, build, and test their solution prior to completing the task for score. In addition to points for completing tasks, teams are also often scored on their teamwork and creativity.

Combination

This type of problem combines some type of physical activity and verbal replies or prompts. Examples of “Combination” problems include each team member making a character from aluminum foil and then telling a story using those characters, having the team use props and costumes and say what a caption of their picture might be, or picking up objects and saying a creative use for them., Teams generally have time to look at any materials they are provided.

Ukiah Unified School District



SCIENCE FAIR

SAVE THE DATE

WHEN:
February 1st & 2nd,
2018

WHERE:
Ukiah Valley
Conference Center



Science Fair Information Nights? This year we will be having open science fair information nights. This is a time for parents and/or students to come get help or have questions answered about the science fair. All science fair information nights will be held at the Ukiah Adult School in Room 8 (1056 N. Bush St.). If these times and dates don't work for you, I am also available by appointment.

- Wednesday, November 15th, 2017: 4:30pm-6:00pm (will be passing out science fair handbooks)
- Wednesday, December 13th, 2017: 4:30pm-6:00pm
- Wednesday, January 24th, 2018: 4:30pm-6:00pm (you can come with final questions and/or bring your project to this one and I can take it to the science fair for you)



Who can participate? TK through 2nd grades can participate in class projects. 3rd through 12th grades can participate in individual, small group, or class projects.



Where can I get more information and student handbook? Visit the Science Fair website at <http://uusdsiencefair.weebly.com/>



Questions? Contact Alisa Weselsky, aweselsky@uusd.net, 463-5222

