



PARENT INFORMATION PACK



It's 4:27 in the afternoon

You don't have to worry

You know where your child is

She's just discovered a new species of exotic bird

And couldn't be in better hands

YMCA Camp Bernie
327 Turkey Top Road
Port Murray, New Jersey 07865
908-832-5315
www.campbernieymca.org

OUR PHILOSOPHY

For more than 50 years, YMCA Camp Bernie has provided programs that help children make new friends, develop new skills and experience innovative, age-appropriate challenges. We build strong kids so that they can become healthy and productive adults.

- 1) We provide safe and healthy program experiences with positive role models
- 2) We offer a wide variety of activities through which children have fun, build confidence, develop skills and make friends.
- 3) We teach and live the YMCA values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility that encourage cooperation, trust, integrity and accountability.
- 4) We instill an appreciation of nature through outdoor adventures, discovery and environmental awareness.
- 5) We celebrate diversity and respect each other in our community.

ENROLLMENT

Any child in the Lebanon Township School District is eligible to attend the before and/or after school program. We accept children ages 5-13. Morning kindergarten children can be accommodated by the before school program, while afternoon kindergarten children can be accommodated by the after school program.

PROGRAM HOURS AND DAYS

BEFORE SCHOOL:

Program will operate daily from 7 am until the beginning of the school day. The Before School program will not operate on delayed opening days or in the event of school closings or delays for snow days or emergency closures.

AFTER SCHOOL:

The program will operate daily from school dismissal (either early or regularly scheduled) until 6 pm. There is no additional charge for scheduled early dismissal programs. The After School program will not operate in the event of school closings or early dismissals for snow days or emergency closures.

HOLIDAY CARE:

The program will operate at the YMCA Camp Bernie facility from 9 am- 4 pm on school holidays or scheduled closings with the exception of: Thanksgiving, Thanksgiving Friday, all December school break days, Good Friday and Memorial Day. There will not be an additional cost for full-time (5 days a week) enrolled students to attend these programs. Reduced costs will be available to those students enrolled less than 5 days a week. Before and after care will be offered at a nominal cost. Transportation to and from YMCA Camp Bernie is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

SUMMER CARE:

A reduced price will be offered to all full-time enrolled students to attend YMCA Camp Bernie's summer day or overnight camps.

DROP IN PROGRAM

Families needing services less frequently or parents who have last minute schedule changes can be accommodated subject to available space based on licensing. Your child must be registered in the program for you to use the Drop In service.

You will not be on a monthly billing plan and payment must be made in advance of the service unless you complete a credit card charge form and indicate automatic billing for additional services. You must notify the Advantage Program Director at least 1 business day in advance of your child(ren) attending- i.e. we must know by 3 pm on Thursday if you need care for after school on Friday.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The YMCA is the largest child-care provider in the United States, and YMCA Camp Bernie will be utilizing the wealth of resources for its daily curriculum. Children will be able to participate in daily interest areas that may include arts and crafts, literacy, health and fitness, indoor and outdoor physical activities, team-building, environmental awareness and more. Special speakers and presenters will be offered on a consistent basis. Field trips to YMCA Camp Bernie's own 300-acre facility will be offered where children can participate in a wide variety of activities, including a visit to our Live Animal Nature Center, Climbing Tower, seasonal Lake activities, including Canoeing and much more. Homework Help is offered daily by our professional staff. Snack time is also provided on a daily basis.

ILLNESS POLICY

Children are not allowed to attend the Advantage Program if they are absent from school. In the event your child becomes ill during the Advantage Program, you will be contacted by the Advantage Program Director and he/she may be isolated until you are able to make arrangements for pickup. Please be sure we have up to date emergency contact numbers.

ABSENCE POLICY

If your child will not be attending their scheduled days for any reason, parents must:

- 1) Call the Advantage Program Director at 908-832-5315 in advance and leave a message regarding their attendance or absence
- 2) Send a note to the School Office so the child's teacher will be aware if they need to send the child home on a bus

SCHOOL SPORTS/ACTIVITY POLICY

If your child will be attending an in-school sports program or other in-school activity during the operation times of the Advantage Program, but still need some time period of care, parents must:

- 1) Ensure that their child(ren) know to check-in for attendance at the Advantage Program before going to their activity

- 2) Send a written note stating that the child has permission to attend activities, and please specify the dates of the activity, as well as the start and end time of the activity.
- 3) Ensure that their child(ren) know that they are to return to the Advantage Program immediately after the conclusion of the activity (if applicable).

While attending the Advantage Program, children will not be permitted to leave the Program or school premises for any reason UNLESS a parent or authorized person has signed them out.

TELEPHONE

Each program has a telephone with a voice mail message system which can be reached at 908-832-5315. Please use this phone to leave a message after program hours. On site phone numbers will be distributed prior to the beginning of the program.

BILLING

YMCA Camp Bernie will bill you monthly if you have not signed up for automatic payments, and all payments are due by the 25th of the month preceding program. September enrollments and payments are due no later than August 25th. Please send and make checks payable to:

YMCA Camp Bernie
327 Turkey Top Road
Port Murray, NJ 07865

If there are any questions regarding your account, please call 908-832-5315 ext. 15.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND DONATIONS

The YMCA is a national non-profit charitable organization. We exist and work for everyone; people of all ages, races, religions, incomes and abilities. We constantly strive to offer assistance to those in need. If you feel you can help us in our efforts, please do not hesitate to contact us at 908-832-5315 or visit the donation section of our website at www.campbernieymca.org.

For families and individuals in need, please contact our Main Office at 908-832-5315 for confidential financial assistance and applications.

***Thank you for enrolling in the YMCA Camp Bernie
Advantage Before/After School Program.***

***Please feel free to contact us at anytime at 908-832-5315 or via the web at
www.campbernieymca.org.***