

Greetings! My name is Lauren Henderson. I am the 5th grade reading and science teacher at Lancaster Elementary School. I also serve as the school's 4H club sponsor. I have been planning an overnight field trip for the 5th graders that will be geared towards several of the Next Generation Science Standards. First, I am seeking your approval. (I believe the December board meeting is coming up so I wanted to get this to you before then.)

Below I have listed a few trip highlights.

* March 31st- April 1st (Leave school on Thursday morning and return on Friday afternoon.)

* North Central 4-H Camp is located in Carlisle, Kentucky. It is 83 miles from Lancaster. Approximately 1 hour and 31 minutes.

* Eric Comely, the Garrard County 4H agent, will be assisting me in the coordination and fundraising for the trip.

* We are taking school staff as chaperones.

Below is an excerpt from the Program Director at North Central 4h Camp describing the Environmental camp. I have also attached a list of classes that will be offered at camp and their connection to the NGSS.

"North Central 4-H Camp hosts an overnight environmental camp program that is geared towards 4th and 5th grade classrooms of Kentucky. Our class instructors utilize Next Generation Science Standards to tailor their lesson plans towards this age group. The goal of our program is to utilize meaningful, hands-on programs to educate youth in environmental sciences along with cross-cutting concepts to bolster their in-class learning. Teachers across multiple counties utilize our program, and can reference what their students experience at camp with what they are learning in the classroom. In addition to environmental education, our camping program also offers the opportunity for students to foster a sense of autonomy by spending the night away from parents and with their teachers and peers. This not only provides an important experience for youth, but can also help enhance the teacher/student relationship in an out-of-classroom setting." -Jake Farmer, North Central 4-H Camp Program Director

I believe this would be a wonderful experience for our 5th grade students here at LES. They would make memories that would last a lifetime. Please let me know if I have your approval.