

Math π ath 2020

PRE-PROGRAM BRIEFING

(last updated 4/10/2020)

Dear students enrolled in MathPath 2020 and parents/guardians of the students:

This Pre-Program Briefing describes what you need to know to prepare for daily life at MathPath 2020 at Mount Holyoke College (MHC). If you still have questions, email April Verser, Program Director, at april.verser@mathpath.org. The telephone number of the program is 610-616-3211. This connects directly to the MathPath Skype account, monitored by April Verser.

The times given in this briefing are in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) in the USA.

The MathPath 2020 opening session will take place on Monday, June 29, tentatively at 8:30am, **location TBD**. Please see the online campus map at:

<https://map.mtholyoke.edu/>

Monday, June 29 is Orientation Day, and the opening session has several components that may be of interest to the families of our students. All visiting relatives/friends are invited to attend the morning session. We ask visitors to sit at the back, and we ask students to sit as far towards the front as they can. Orientation morning includes:

- Welcome, including information on the philosophy of MathPath
- Introduction of all the instructors and staff present
- Question and Answer opportunity about the organization and schedule
- Kick-off Plenary (the first mathematics presentation to all students)
- Tour of the academic MHC facilities we will use
- The first Problem of the Day (PoD)

Revisions of this briefing may be made from time to time; check the “last updated” date on the top of this page. Accepted students and their families will be informed promptly of significant changes via email.

We look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,
The MathPath Staff

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I. TRAVEL TO & FROM MATHPATH

Please see <http://www.mathpath.org/gettingthere.htm>. It provides specific date and time windows during which MathPathers are to arrive and depart, including airport and train/bus station details. We are very serious about the arrival and departure windows, especially the dates.

MathPath Welcome Party for Air Arrivals

There will be counselors and/or MathPath staff members at the arrival gate areas inside security. One of them will meet every student at their gate area upon arrival. Members of the welcome party will be wearing MathPath T-shirts. Arriving MathPathers should locate an adult wearing a MathPath T-shirt and introduce themselves immediately after deplaning. If no such adult is immediately visible to an arriving MathPather, they should **stay in their gate area** until a MathPath adult arrives. To facilitate recognition, we ask **all arriving MathPathers** to tie a **red bandana** around their wrist, neck, or head as they leave the plane.

Unaccompanied Minors (UMs) will be handed over by airline staff directly to a designated receiver in the Welcome Party. The names and phone numbers of these designated receivers will be communicated to parents/guardians who have informed MathPath of UM status before the first day of June. This information will be required by the airline on the UM contract. *If UM service is purchased for a return trip in advance, be sure to **get a receipt for both trips** and give us the receipt on arrival at MHC (or email it earlier).*

Do not worry if a flight is delayed or early. We will have current flight information for all students traveling by air (because all information will have been submitted to us in advance) and we will be monitoring any changes.

If a counselor has not met a student within 5 minutes of their getting off the plane, that student should call the number of their designated receiver, or (as a backup) the MathPath number **610-616-3211**, and then follow instructions. As a precaution, all arriving students should have these numbers programmed into their phones and easily accessible as they leave the plane! In some cases, several planes may be landing at once and the receivers may be temporarily busy at another gate. Students: *If there is no one to greet you immediately, **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR GATE AREA unless instructed to do so by a MathPath staff member.***

The Welcome Party in the airport will assist arriving MathPath students with their baggage claim and navigation through the airport. Students will be transported from the airport to the campus by MathPath shuttles. Students should be prepared to wait in the airport under the supervision of a counselor, awaiting the return of one of our vehicles. The Welcome Party will provide some small games, but students may bring their own (easily accessible in their luggage), to pass time waiting in the airport.

All MathPathers arriving by air will be asked to call home from the airport on their cell phones immediately after the Welcome Party meets them. (Parents/guardians of international students will be informed by email or telephone after arrival to campus, if not sooner.)

MathPath Welcome Party for Train/Bus Arrivals

The system is very similar to that at the airport, but there are fewer official security measures.

There will be a counselor or other MathPath staff member to meet every student at their station platform/stop upon arrival. Members of the Welcome Party will be wearing MathPath T-shirts. Arriving Mathpathers should locate an adult wearing a MathPath T-shirt and introduce themselves immediately upon arrival. If no such adult is immediately visible to an arriving MathPather, they should stay in the platform area until a MathPath adult arrives. To facilitate recognition we ask **all arriving MathPather** to tie a **red bandana** around their wrist, neck, or head as they leave the train/bus.

Do not worry if an arrival is delayed or early. We will have current travel information for all students and we will be monitoring any changes.

If a MathPath adult has not met a student within 5 minutes of arrival, that student should call the MathPath number (610-616-3211) and then follow instructions. Students: *If there is no one to greet you immediately, DO NOT LEAVE THE PLATFORM AREA unless instructed to do so by a MathPath staff member.*

The Welcome Party will assist arriving MathPath students with bag claim and navigation through the station. Students will be transported from the station to the campus by MathPath shuttles.

Departures from MathPath by Air/Train/Bus

Students will be taken to the station or airport, assisted with baggage check-in, and taken to the boarding gate by MathPath staff. Those flying out as UMs will be handed over to the airline at the departure gate counter, as per airline protocol.

To facilitate departures, many students may leave for the station or airport together in a bus or large van. Since the bus or van must leave early enough for the person with the first departure to make their boarding time, please expect that students may have a longer-than-usual wait (several hours) at the station/airport prior to departure. To minimize wait, book an earlier trip when possible. Students will never be unattended while waiting in the airport.

MathPath Staff will contact parents/guardians if any complications arise. If you do not receive a call from us, it means all is well.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Students should keep their boarding pass or ticket, personal ID, and any UM receipts, safely in an easily reachable place (such as the zippered side of a carry-on bag, or a travel-document pouch)! MathPath Staff will collect important documents for safe-keeping upon check-in (UM paperwork, passports, IDs, etc), and return these documents to students during their check-out.

US Immigration

Many students living outside the US who are not US citizens will need a visa to enter the US, depending on their citizenship status. MathPath will provide extra information to these families upon request, including supporting documentation for the visa application process and for Customs. Please read any documentation you are sent very carefully and follow any necessary steps.

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II. CHECK-IN

Check-in will be in the main lobby of our residence hall; see the campus map:

<https://map.mtholyoke.edu/>

Students/families will find a member of the MathPath senior staff available at the check-in desk to officially check a student into the program.

Materials needed for check-in:

- Cash/check(s) for spending money and security deposit (see section V)
- Any updated versions of any registration forms
- Important documents to be held by MathPath Staff for safe keeping (i.e. passport, ID, UM documents, etc)
- Medication to be held and/or administered by MathPath Staff (including extra supplies such as inhalers/epi-pens/etc)

Students will receive the following at check-in:

- Lanyard with nametag
- Room Key
- Swipe Card (provides access to residence hall & meals)

MathPath counselors will then assist students to their rooms; parents are also welcome to help students get settled in during the check-in period.

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III. ROOM AND BOARD

Lodging. MathPath will have sole use of a large residence hall complex. Students will be housed on separate wings or floors by gender. Students are intentionally assigned to single-occupancy rooms. Our experience at MathPath indicates that the calm of a private room leads to

better rest after intense days of mathematical and recreational activity. Students who are friends and are very close in age who wish to have nearby rooms can request to be in the same counselor group. Any such requests should be made to April Verser at april.verser@mathpath.org no later than May 31, 2020. Such requests may or may not be able to be honored.

Meals. Students will eat all meals in the on-campus dining hall. Students will not be permitted to skip meals, and students will be escorted to and from every meal by a counselor or other staff member. For religious, medical, or philosophical reasons, MathPathers adhere to a great many different diets. However, college dining halls are used to accommodating dietary restrictions. So long as we know each student's specific food restrictions in advance, the dining service will be able to accommodate them. *Be sure to indicate any special dietary needs on the health form.* We may need to consult with the host institution staff prior to arrival in the case of extreme food restrictions, so the sooner MathPath is aware of such dietary needs, the better.

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IV. WHAT TO BRING AND WHAT NOT TO BRING

Write the student's name on as many items as possible.

Clothes can get mixed in with other students' clothes doing laundry, or students leave their notebooks or pencil bags in lecture halls and classrooms. Write or permanently affix the student's name/initials on every item you can before arriving at MathPath: clothing, school supplies, cell phone, wallet, purse, backpack, water bottle, tennis racket, shoes, etc. Use a permanent marker easily wash or rub off. Etch onto hard surfaces (such as calculator/phone/etc).

Along with the specific recommendations below, families should keep the following general guidelines in mind. Research the typical weather conditions at our location, and keep in mind that students will often be outside (walking from place to place, or on outings). Some classrooms may be air-conditioned but our residence hall(s) will *not* be. **We will provide 1 box fan for each student room.**

Students are likely to need a recent school or government-issued ID for air/plane/bus travel to and from MathPath.

CLOTHES/OUTERWEAR – Adjust the recommendations below depending on the typical clothing use of each student. Students at MathPath are expected to do their laundry weekly with the assistance of their counselor.

_____ 8 pairs of socks; 9 underwear

_____ 8 shirts or T-shirts

- ___ 3-4 pairs of shorts; 1-2 pairs of long pants
- ___ pajamas/sleepwear (to last a week)
- ___ 1 lightweight rain jacket, with hood if available (water repellent preferred)
- ___ 1 warm sweater/sweatshirt for cool summer nights
- ___ 1 hat or sun visor
- ___ 1 pair of comfortable shoes/sneakers for daily use around campus
- ___ 1 pair of good quality walking/hiking shoes
- ___ 1 pair of flip-flops/sandals, for bathroom use or for use around campus
- ___ swimsuit; beach towel
- ___ optional: clothing hangers, if hanging clothes in closet

TOILETRIES – The list below is minimal; supplement with other items used in a typical week.

- ___ Body soap (plus soap dish if needed)
- ___ Shampoo/conditioner – pack liquids in zip-lock plastic bag
- ___ Toothbrush, toothpaste, floss (plastic cup optional)
- ___ Deodorant, comb/hairbrush, nail clipper

SCHOOL SUPPLIES – During the month, students should expect to use a fair amount of paper and receive many handouts, since they attend three plenary talks per day and participate in a total of eight breakout courses, two per week. We suggest the following to keep everything organized.

- ___ The equivalent of 200-300 sheets of paper, whether in the form of loose leaf or notebooks
- ___ Binders or folders to keep plenary notes, materials for breakout courses, and other miscellaneous documents (sheet protectors optional)
- ___ A minimum of: 3 pens, 12 pencils, 2 erasers, extra lead and/or pencil sharpener(s)

OTHER ITEMS

- ___ **Refillable water bottle** (pack an extra one – this is *essential*)
- ___ Small alarm clock or alarm watch – you won't be able to use the alarm on your phone
- ___ Cell phone and charger (see below)
- ___ Inexpensive sunglasses
- ___ Sunscreen lotion, insect repellent (pack liquids in a zip-lock bag)
- ___ Laundry bag (recommend one with pull string and made of nylon net)

RECREATION (optional depending on your interests)

- ___ Running shoes or cross trainers (group runs, tennis, basketball, etc)
- ___ Hiking boots
- ___ Soccer shoes/cleats and shin guards
- ___ Tennis racket, baseball mitt, table tennis paddles, or other sports equipment
- ___ Glove appropriate for softball (see Recreational Activities information below)
- ___ Board games, chess sets, puzzles, Rubik's Cubes (many MathPathers love mental puzzles and games, want to share them, or arrange competitions)
- ___ Musical instruments, related equipment (including sheet music/folding stand) – we expect at least one piano will be available for those who wish to practice

OPTIONAL OTHER ITEMS (including electronics – all optional)

- _____ Camera, since you will NOT be able to use your phone as a camera
- _____ Scientific calculator (Some breakout courses use basic calculators, such as spherical trigonometry, but you can manage without one. MathPath is not responsible if you lose it, so better to bring an inexpensive scientific calculator. Graphing or CAS calculators are definitely not needed.)
- _____ Simple compass, straightedge/ruler and protractor
- _____ Basic music player, if you wish to listen to music alone in your room. You will need to bring a device that does not play video or have access to games or apps, such as an iPod-Shuffle. (see section about electronics)
- _____ Basic eReader that does not play video or have access to games or apps, such as a Kindle Paperwhite or other basic Kindle. (see section about electronics)

Recreational Activities. We have several sports traditions at MathPath. One is regular soccer games, sometimes including a tournament. Another is jogging, often early in the morning, led by a counselor or staff member. Table tennis, which is taken pretty seriously, often involves a big tournament towards the end of the program. We may also hold a chess tournament. Want to learn Pickleball? Equipment/instruction will be provided! Finally, we have a tradition of a softball game on or around July 4. If you are a regular baseball or softball player, please **bring your glove** and please share it on game day!

Bedding and Linens. MHC will provide a full set of basic linens for each student and provide a linen exchange after each week (three exchanges during the month). Included in each set will be a bottom sheet, a top sheet, a pillowcase, one bath towel, one hand towel, and one washcloth. MHC will provide a pillow and lightweight blanket for each student.

Laundry. The list of clothing above is intended to be enough for a little more than a week. Counselors will help students to do laundry once a week. Laundry detergent will be provided free of charge by MathPath - if you have special dermatological needs in regards to detergent, please inform Program Director April Verser by email at april.verser@mathpath.org or supply your own detergent.

Cell Phones. Every student attending MathPath should bring a mobile phone and charger with which they are familiar (and that work in the United States) for use while traveling to and from MathPath and for communicating with families throughout the month. However, to promote community and encourage activity, we do not allow students to have their cell phones except for the daily call home and possibly on special trips. At all other times, counselors collect and safely store the phones.

Please put some indelible identifying information on the cell phone exterior (using a permanent marker, etching tools, or a label with extremely strong adhesive), and make sure that identifying information can also be found on the background and lock screens.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

Do not bring any expensive items you do not absolutely need; the chance of losing them is too great, especially if they are small. You and your family will be responsible for any loss.

Recreational electronic devices other than cell phones are not permitted without pre-authorization, and are strongly discouraged. (We recommend books, puzzles/magazines, phone apps, or other non-electronic means to pass the time on flights.) We consider it a disciplinary matter if a student is found to be playing electronic games during MathPath. For details, including what you must report and request pre-authorization for, see our *Personal Electronics Agreement Form*.

Computers. MathPath has a portable computer lab that will be available for students to use during select free times for homework, classwork, and email. We therefore will NOT allow students to keep personal computers in their possession beyond exceptional circumstances, such as to help with a disability. If a student plans to bring a computer for some special reason, it must first be authorized by the Program Director April Verser, and the *Personal Electronics Agreement Form* must be completed, listing the personal computer.

Weapons, Lighters, Matches. Students must NOT bring any weapons of any kind, nor items that could be construed as weapons, including pocket knives or swiss-army tools. Martial arts items (such as num-chuks or ninja stars) are also not permitted. Objects that produce or involve sparks or flame (such as fireworks, lighters, matches, candles) are not permitted

Cooking Devices. Students must not bring any electric cooking devices (such as microwaves, hot plates, etc). Depending on the facilities, students may have supervised access to small kitchenettes with microwaves in the residence halls.

Controlled Substances. If bringing any medicine (including over-the-counter items), students must declare it on the appropriate health forms. All other controlled substances are strictly banned.

PACKING

We advise that you check one bag and board your flight with one carry-on item. The best way to accomplish this is to pack little to nothing beyond what is listed above. Remember, many items cannot be carried onto the airplane cabin in a carry-on; for instance, liquids in containers over 3 ounces. For more information, visit

<http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>

SPENDING MONEY AND SECURITY DEPOSIT

SECURITY DEPOSIT: \$100 USD

Every year a few MathPathers incur an extra charge from our host, usually due to lost room keys but occasionally for property damage repairs. We ask families to provide a deposit against such charges. Any unused portion of the deposit will be returned at the end of the program along with any unused spending money. Any charges incurred by the MathPather will be reported to the student and the family of the MathPather.

Please provide the security deposit in the form of a separate check. If you are unable to provide a check, include an extra \$100 cash with the spending money or provide a money order.

RECOMMENDED SPENDING MONEY: \$250 USD FOR 4 WEEKS

For the following approximate expected expenses:

1. \$125 for various weekend activities, such as bike rides or bowling
2. \$50 for incidental expenses on the round-trip between home and MathPath
3. \$75 as a cash reserve for items such as purchase of an occasional souvenir during a trip, occasional extra drinks/snacks, etc.

Spending money will be safeguarded by the MathPath Treasurer, who runs a student “bank”. At check-in, students deposit all money (cash and/or check) they don’t need immediately. Students will have access a couple of times a week to this account, particularly before trips to interesting destinations where students may wish to purchase items. Students should carry no more than \$10-20 on their person on a regular basis.

Students will choose to attend different weekend activities that may have different costs. These costs will be automatically deducted from the student’s account each week. Money remaining in the account at the end of the program will be returned to the student, in cash or check depending on the amount.

Access to this account gives many students more independence in spending money than they have had before. Before leaving, please discuss your expectations for fiscal responsibility with your MathPather. We have divided the spending money into categories intentionally for MathPath students to better understand how to budget their money.

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V. COMMUNICATION

CONTACTING MATHPATH

The MathPath phone number, **610-616-3211**, connects to Program Director April Verser. April can also be reached via email at april.verser@mathpath.org.

All serious concerns about students should be voiced to April, and she will forward concerns to others if necessary. Please refrain from calling the MathPath number to leave messages for individual students, unless in an emergency, or if you are unable to reach the student directly after several tries for at least two days.

April will have “office hours” during which she or her assistant can be reached directly on the phone line, and during which she will respond to emails. In case of an emergency outside of these office hours, please call the MathPath number and leave a voicemail. Staff will immediately review all voice messages.

CONTACTING INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS

Calling Home. The best time to reach your MathPather is between 9:30-10:00pm EDT. Lights out is promptly at 10:00pm. Do not phone at other times without special arrangements; counselors will have possession of student phones at all other times. Counselors will remind students to contact home every day in the first week, less frequently thereafter. Please discuss your family’s expectations for staying in contact before your MathPather leaves home.

Some evenings (such as the fourth of July), the phone call may happen at a different time due to program activities. For families who are out of the country, or for whom this phone call will come at an inconvenient time, we can arrange a different call time, probably around the dinner hour. Your student will communicate the arrangements directly with you after conferring with their counselor and April Verser, Program Director.

Email. MathPath owns a mobile Chromebook lab, which will be available for students to check email. Students using the lab for communication with home will have priority use.

Homesickness. We keep an eye out and support students where we see a need. Experience has shown that the busy days and evenings at MathPath usually help counteract any homesickness within a few days.

Note that excessive communication with the family often contributes to *more* homesickness. Please keep your telephone calls brief, and try not to remind students of things they are “missing” at home (i.e. favorite foods/pets/activities).

SENDING MAIL TO STUDENTS

Address all letters and packages, whether sent by US Mail or package services, to:

Student Name, MathPath
Mount Holyoke College
50 College St
South Hadley, MA 01075

No Weekend Delivery. Like most colleges, the MHC mailroom is not open on weekends. No mail, including no express, no overnight, no UPS and no FedEx, will reach us at the above address on Saturdays or Sundays, even if you pay for special weekend delivery. Due to being off campus on Mondays, it is possible that we may be unable to receive mail from Friday noon through Tuesday morning. *Therefore, if you want to be sure something gets to us or your student over the weekend, you MUST plan for delivery for the previous Thursday at the latest.*

Similarly, note that mail is not delivered directly to our organization; rather, we must pick it up from the college mail room, which has limited summer hours. We typically pick up the mail once per day, so please do not be concerned if items do not reach students until the business day after they are reported to you as “delivered” by the courier.

If you are mailing something special, urgent, or time-sensitive, we advise you to contact April Verser, Program Director, in advance of its mailing, via email at april.verser@mathpath.org.

Emergencies. We may be able to make special arrangements to ensure arrival of emergency mailings (such as medications) via a local mailing service or office, but you MUST contact April Verser via email at april.verser@mathpath.org, and mail as instructed by program staff.

Suggested last postmark dates for student mail:

Regular domestic mail – July 21

Domestic Priority – July 22

Domestic Express Mail – July 23

Regular mail from Canada – July 13

Regular mail from other countries – July 6

Courier (FedEx, DHL, etc.):

Overnight domestic or Canada courier – July 23

Express courier from other countries – July 22

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VI. VISITING MATHPATH

Parents/guardians, relatives, teachers, and friends are invited to attend the MathPath opening session. They may also wish to attend the closing ceremony, which includes the awarding of certificates to all students completing the program, followed by a variety show, which can be a lot of fun for both participants and audience. Further details are provided on the opening page of this briefing and will be sent to parents/guardians by email.

Beyond the opening and concluding days of the program, we suggest at most one or two brief visits by you or authorized relatives/friends, typically during our weekends. Parents may wonder if they can help fend off homesickness by visiting; however, we find that the mathematical environment and, most importantly, the opportunities to mingle with other students who are also mathematically inclined quickly engages them with their new environment. Students form strong relationships with their intellectual peers at MathPath; excessive visiting can erode the value of these interactions. Thus we allow only a limited number and limited length of visits.

You may spend the days of your visit *observing* MathPath, that is, following your child's routine, but not interfering with it. Guests may attend plenaries (all-program lectures), sitting in the rear of the auditorium. With permission of the instructor, guests may also attend breakouts (small classes), again sitting in the rear or off to the side of the room. While visiting you may eat in the college dining hall. You will be able to pay the dining hall directly. The expected approximate prices are:

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| Breakfast | \$ 9.00 |
| Lunch | \$12.00 |
| Dinner | \$14.00 |

Protocol for Visits. Parents/guardians or friends and relatives whom are listed on the *Student Handover Permission Form* can request to visit during MathPath and take the student off campus. Each such request must be made at least 48 hours in advance and must be approved. Approval is never given (except in emergencies) to take students off campus during our academic program, and we strongly discourage students from leaving campus during our group weekend events. In particular, Saturday is an academic day at MathPath; *do not ask to take a student out of our activities before 5:00pm on Saturdays*. Mondays are devoted to all-program trips and we strongly discourage requests to remove a student from these events. It is best to limit off-campus requests to a few hours, such as dinner Saturday or Sunday night.

To ensure that the senior staff know the whereabouts of every student, there is a specific protocol for requesting any off campus trip for a student. You must make the request to April Verser, Program Director, by email her at april.verser@mathpath.org. Assuming permission is granted, when you come to campus to take your child, you must see April or her assistant – *no one else is authorized to release your child*. You will be asked to present photo ID, unless you are already known to staff, who will confirm when and where you will meet them again upon your return.

No one except April or her assistant can receive your child back on campus, unless they designate someone else.

Any people designated on the *Student Handover Permission Form* must follow the same protocol as described above. It is your responsibility (as the parent/guardian of the student) to inform those persons of this protocol.

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VII. DAILY LIFE

ACADEMICS

The daily schedule for our academic week, which runs Tues–Sat, is shown at www.mathpath.org/day.htm

Attendance at all academic sessions is *required*. Many of the best high school age summer math programs run like colleges and do not check attendance. But with our age group, 11-14, we ensure students are always supervised, which means they must always go to class.

Each week, students submit their course preferences after a description of each course is given at “Show and Tell”. Popular courses often require a lottery to keep our classes balanced, and there are no guarantees for students to get any given choice. Parents/guardians may discuss the breakout choices with students before they come to MathPath, but we allow and encourage students to make their own decisions once they arrive. Students won’t have full and up-to-date information until they attend Show and Tell, and then it is their choice how to rank them. We will not entertain requests from parents/guardians to enroll or switch students in breakouts.

ACTIVITIES

In the evenings, MathPath counselors and staff will announce and chaperone different indoor and outdoor activities, depending on availability. Examples of such activities include: origami, arts & crafts, chess, board/card games, table tennis, dance, pickleball, frisbee, basketball, soccer, etc. Participation in activities requires a sign-up, and students must choose one activity per free-time.

On the weekends (Sunday-Monday), we offer a variety of off-campus activities to explore the local area.

For Sundays, MathPath will offer students a variety of different activities, which they will select usually a couple of days in advance. In some cases, a lottery system is required for popular activities. Sunday activities will have a charge to cover transportation, equipment, ticket, and

other incidental costs. The expected charge will differ based on the activity, and be relayed to students during their selection process, so they have the opportunity to make informed financial decisions. **All students will be expected to select and attend at least one activity every Sunday.**

Each Monday, we will go on a full-program outing. **All transportation, ticket, and incidental costs for Monday outings will be covered by MathPath.** Any additional souvenirs or extra experiences (such as special exhibits at museums) will need to be paid for by the individual MathPath student.

Activities will change from week to week depending on interest and availability. To find out what activities are offered for each weekend, parents/guardians should consult with their students. Please be sure that students are made aware of any activities that parents/guardians have not allowed permission for on the *Recreational Activities Form*.

For answers to further questions about our program, peruse the MathPath website, especially the FAQ pages accessible from the left navbar.

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VIII. PREPARING FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF MATHPATH

At MathPath students will be responsible for carrying out all their daily routines. They will have to do such things as

- monitor their own personal hygiene (showers, brushing teeth, dressing, etc)
- follow a routine for evening and morning and get enough sleep
- choose to eat healthy and varied food from the wide selection in the buffet-style cafeteria (and not waste food)
- pay attention to verbal instructions from adults and remember the instructions
- follow a schedule and be on time and in the right place for meetings
- complete all their homework, handing in write-ups when required
- keep track of (and bring) their school supplies (including handouts) to classes
- keep their lanyard, key and swipe card on their person at all times
- communicate with their family regularly, as agreed upon by ahead of time, and
- pack up to go home without forgetting or damaging things

Many MathPathers have never had to pay attention to much of the above on their own. Students also seem to lack experience in managing their school supplies; they may not be used to carrying them around with them to different destinations throughout the day. Consider strategizing to help students cope with any new expectations before MathPath begins.

Counselors will help with some of these things. For instance, if a MathPather has not woken up by a certain time, the counselor will knock loudly on their door. But a counselor has many duties, and many different students to oversee. *At MathPath, it is each student's responsibility to take care of their self and their possessions.* Please prepare all students for this responsibility.

One approach is to select a handful of items from the above list and have your MathPather be responsible for those items during the two weeks prior to the start of the program. Gradually add items as your MathPather becomes comfortable. The start of MathPath requires a good deal of adjustment: meeting new people, getting used to the pace of the academics, and learning to live away from home. The adjustment will be aided by preparing every student to be responsible for themselves as much as possible before arrival.

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IX. SAFETY PROTOCOL

The safety of all participants is the highest priority at MathPath. The following protocol will be in effect throughout the program:

1. Access to the residential buildings occupied by MathPath students will be by swipe access cards issued only to MathPath students and staff, and to MHC Personnel. Student rooms will be accessed by keys issued to the student occupant only. The key and access card will be affixed to a lanyard that students are expected to wear around their necks. Students are expected to keep their rooms locked at all times. Students are expected to wear their lanyards at all times when they are outside their own rooms, except when swimming, playing field games, or engaged in such activities where wearing a lanyard might interfere with physical safety. In these cases, a MathPath adult will designate a secure holding area for all lanyards.
2. Each student will be assigned to a counselor, who will be specifically responsible for the student's well-being. Students will be escorted from place to place by a MathPath staff member at all times. Students will never be allowed to go anywhere without a MathPath staff member present. Students are expected to follow all directions of any MathPath staff member for the safety of themselves and others. Students are expected to understand these guidelines and never attempt to go somewhere on their own.
3. It is the counselor's responsibility to check that the student is present in the residence hall every evening before the counselor group meeting, which takes place each night just before preparation for bed. Thereafter, students are expected to be in their own rooms or the bathroom. Students are expected to be in their own room with the lights turned off at the scheduled lights-out time.
4. Students will not be allowed to leave the campus unless accompanied by a MathPath staff member or an authorized adult. The only authorized adults are the parents or guardians, unless

others are authorized on the *Off-Campus Permission Form*. During MathPath-sponsored off-campus activities, students will be chaperoned by at least one MathPath staff member who, in turn, is supervised and monitored by the Program Director. During off-campus activities, students may be allowed to move about in small groups without an adult (such as in a museum). If this is the case, students will be required to stay in pre-designated groups with other students (no one should ever be alone), and students will be required to have regular check-ins with their MathPath staff member chaperone as designated by the staff member. In these cases, it will be the students responsibility to adhere to expectations, and if any student fails to do so, they will be required to accompany a MathPath staff member for the rest of the outing.

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X. HEALTH AND WELL-BEING PROTOCOL

1. A Registered Nurse will be available during scheduled times on most days for consultation about ailments, injuries, and other health matters. A Registered Nurse or other health care provider will be on-call when a Registered Nurse is not present on campus to provide medical consultation when needed. In the event of any injury or medical problem, it is the student's responsibility to inform their counselor or a senior staff member immediately. The student will then be expected and reminded to visit the Nurse at the next possible opportunity. After a consultation with the Nurse, further action will be taken as indicated. Students are expected to adhere to guidelines and instructions given by the Nurse and any MathPath staff member. If a student has concerns about holding themselves accountable, they should request assistance from their counselor.

2. Parents/guardians must include a list of all medications the student must take on the *Health Form*. If on the *Health Form* it is indicated that Staff will administer medication, the medicine will be kept in the health station, and the student must visit the station to take the medication.

3. In the case of a serious medical problem or other emergency affecting the student, MathPath will attempt to notify parents or guardians as soon as possible, while prioritizing medical attention for the student. Once parents/guardians are notified, MathPath Staff will act on the directions and wishes from parents/guardians, unless a medical professional has already become involved. In this case, the parent/guardian may confer with the medical professional(s).

A MathPath staff member should be the first person to contact parents/guardians about a serious medical problem (requiring treatment off-campus). If a parent/guardian hears from their student about a serious medical issue, they should assume MathPath staff does not know about it and should be immediately informed by both student and parents/guardians. If parents/guardians are concerned about a medical issue, they should first contact MathPath staff about the issue rather than their student.

4. A student diagnosed later than June 10 by their physician as having a serious or highly communicable disease (e.g., mononucleosis, meningitis, a serious flu) will not be allowed to attend the program. If a student develops any such disease during the program, they will be immediately admitted to a nearby hospital or placed in cared-for-isolation, as merited by the case.

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