

SWWC's Camp Aspire Receives Donations

Camp Aspire 2018 was a great success, with students attending from Pipestone, Edgerton, Lake Benton, Luverne, and as far away as Windom. Camp was held July 23-27 for children entering K-grade 2 and July 30-Aug 3 for children entering grades 3-6. Camp Aspire continues to focus on providing a child-centered experience with hands-on discovery through community, character, social-emotional, and project-based learning. At camp, children are given the opportunity to explore the community, see career possibilities in person, touch the tools of the trade, and meet the people that make rural communities thrive.

Corporate Donations

- The **Monogram Loves Kids Foundation**, the philanthropic arm of Monogram Foods, provided grants to seventy organizations across the six Monogram communities. The \$5,000 grant to Camp Aspire was one of those funded through the Chandler location.
- **First Bank and Trust of Pipestone**, through the Fishback Financial Corporation Community Fund, donated \$1,000 to Camp Aspire. This fund supports programs that make their local communities better places to live and grow.
- The **Shopko Foundation** donated \$500 to Camp Aspire, and believes in providing “the stuff that counts®” and enhancing the lives of neighbors in every community that Shopko serves.

Camper Scholarship Donations

- Monica Sullivan
- Tammy and Preston Stahl
- Anna Hesse
- Many anonymous donors

Donations of Time and Talent

- Barry Erickson, Titan Machinery
- Robert Dykstra, Pipestone Municipal Airport
- Jane Gorter and Sue Hauptert, J & S Logos
- Reggie Gorter, Reggie Gorter Performing Arts Studio
- Fort Pipestone staff
- Martin Swenson, Swenny's Towing and Repair
- Dan Hailey, Hailey's Hideaway, LLC
- Virtual Reality Kits from SWWC Technology Department
- Pipestone Area Schools Summer Lunch Program
- Tonna Hartman, Outdoor Campus
- Paavo Rasmussen, Siouxland Heritage Museums
- Ericka Volker and Tom Steffes, Pipestone Chamber of Commerce
- SWWC Service Cooperative
- MN West Community and Technical College



Camp Aspire Activities

Daily Field Trips: Exploration of training and equipment used by Diesel Mechanics at Titan Machinery! Importance of highly skilled pilots for delivery of people, parcels, and air application of crops at the Pipestone Municipal Airport! Commercial printing, graphic design, vinyl pressing, machine embroidery, and picture framing at J & S Logos! Climbing, carving, and shopping for quartzite and pipestone at The Fort! Small business representation through Martin Swenson of Swenny's Towing and Repair! Agriculture, Livestock, and Exotic

Animals at the Pipestone County Fair! Fishing and resource management around the quarry pond at Three Maidens grounds!

History: Study of pictographs and petroglyphs through Native American picture-writing. Archeology kits with genuine artifacts recovered from area archeological digs. Candle-making with wicks, wax, and lots of patience! Pioneer clothing fashion-show with period dress! Children's games from the Pioneer era! Yarn and cornhusk dolls with a Camp Aspire twist (think Ninjas, musicians, cowboys, princesses, presidents, jet pilots, and entire families of yarn-folk!)

The Arts: "Marbling Technique" through Shaving Cream Art! Beatboxing, rhythm, and beat with Reggie Gorter on Incredibox! Daily creativity with items created from the Art Bar!

Technology: The amazing animal architect - Beavers! STEAM projects - building beaver dams! Social-Emotional Learning-building better attitudes! Daily Virtual Reality field trips on Google Expedition with VR goggles!

SWWC thanks all of our donors for helping make Camp Aspire 2018 a huge success!

For more information and to see more pictures from Camp Aspire, visit www.swsc.org/CampAspire.