

Memo

TO: All Interested Parents, Teachers, and Board Members
FROM: Staff and PTO of Windham Center School
RE: Invitation to Organize an Enrichment Cluster

As you may know, the Enrichment Team at Windham Center School is organizing a series of enrichment clusters for all students in the school. Enrichment clusters are organized as multiaged groups of students who share a common interest with the person organizing the cluster. We will begin with a pilot series scheduled to run during the afternoons of November 11, November 18, December 2, and December 9. We hope you will be interested in submitting an idea based upon a personal interest or talent.

The main rationale for participation in a cluster is that students and presenters want to be there. Based on an interest, students will select one cluster that they will attend beginning with the four-session pilot series. After the pilot, a longer series of enrichment clusters will be organized to begin in January.

Enrichment clusters are organized around major disciplines, interdisciplinary themes, or cross-disciplinary topics (e.g., a theatrical production group that includes actors, writers, technical specialists, costume designers, etc.). Enrichment clusters will be connected in various ways to the regular curriculum already offered. You don't have to be the "expert" in the topic you select. You and your students can explore a topic together.

Descriptions of sample enrichment clusters are listed following this letter to help give you some ideas for different types of clusters that can be organized. Your own description may be very different from the samples. Feel free to "team up" with a friend. If you would like to assist with a cluster, that is another option.

If you are interested in organizing or helping with an enrichment cluster, please complete the attached form by November 1. We hope you'll join us in this exciting opportunity for students! Thanks!

Parents:

Enrichment Clusters Need Your Help!

**WE HAVE TABULATED YOUR CHILD'S INTEREST SURVEYS.
THESE ARE THE TOP INTERESTS OF THE SCHOOL:**

- ✓ Dinosaurs and Fossils
- ✓ Calculators and Computers
- ✓ Cartoons
- ✓ Art Projects
- ✓ Volcanoes and Earthquakes
- ✓ Math Games and Puzzles
- ✓ Magic
- ✓ Holidays
- ✓ Life in the Ocean
- ✓ Monsters and Mysteries
- ✓ Spanish
- ✓ Animals and Their Homes

**Do you have a special interest in any of these topics?
Do you know of anyone in the community who might?
Do you have yet another interest to share with students?**

In order to help students pursue their interests, we need help in locating people who could come in to offer a cluster. If you or someone you know is interested in pursuing any of these topics with a small group of students, please contact Carol Moran before Christmas vacation.

Thank you!

The next two series of clusters will meet Tuesdays from 1:30–2:30 p.m. for two 5-week sessions: Feb. 7, 14, 28, March 7, 14; and March 21, 28, April 4, 18, 25.

Enrichment Clusters Response Form

Name:	
Address:	
Daytime Phone:	Evening Phone:
Name of Proposed Cluster:	
Description of Proposed Cluster: (2–4 sentences)	
Brief Biography of Enrichment Cluster Teacher for Inclusion in Brochure (1–2 sentences)	
Age Level of Students Preferred for Enrichment Cluster:	
Minimum Number of Students Needed in the Enrichment Cluster:	
Maximum Number of Students Needed in the Enrichment Cluster:	