



2023 All School Campout

A woman with grey hair, wearing a blue tracksuit, a red headband, and black and white checkered boots, is performing a dance move with her legs spread wide and arms outstretched. She is in the foreground on a gravel path. In the background, a large group of children and adults are sitting on wooden bleachers on a grassy hill, watching her. The setting is outdoors with trees in the distance.

What is ASCO?

CSS All School Campout



The All School Campout (ASCO) is an event organized and run by parents. It began with a small group of CSS parents who wanted to camp together in 2001. The campout visited several different locales over the years, finding Cedar Ridge in 2012. Cedar Ridge allowed the campout to quadruple in size, from approximately 100 participants to now more than 450.

It takes a village to run campout and create a safe and memorable weekend for all. Any family who wants to is encouraged to come to ASCO. New families who attend and love campout are encouraged to join the planning crew for the following year.

If you have questions after reviewing the details in the slideshow, please email
ASCO@creativescienceschool.org

When and where is ASCO?

Friday, June 2, 2023
check in starts at 5pm
to Sunday, June 4, 2023
check out by 3pm

**Cedar Ridge Retreat and
Conference Center in Vernonia,
Oregon**

18062 Keasey Rd
Vernonia, OR 97064



Cedar Ridge Retreat and Conference Center in Vernonia, Oregon

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Vernonia, OR 97064



The Simple Version:

Go west on 26 W 23.6 miles 23.6 miles from the tunnel by the zoo

Turn Right on Hwy 47 NORTH.

Travel approximately 15 miles to Vernonia

Road veers right on Bridge Street.

Go through downtown Vernonia.

Cross the Bridge.

Turn left on State Avenue (also known as Keasey Road)

Travel 1.6 miles to Cedar Ridge



Where
will
I
sleep?

ASCO
Lodging

Tent Camping

Most ASCO attendees tent camp. Campers can set up tents along the tree line at the bottom of the field in front of the Cedar Ridge Lodge. There are several Porta-Potties scattered in the tent area to avoid the uphill walk to the dining hall in the middle of the night. There are additional restrooms with showers and changing areas located on the upper grounds.

Tent locations are first come, first served, keeping to the perimeter of the field, leaving the field open for activities. For families looking for a quieter tent area for early bedtimes, setting up your tent as far from the campfire area as possible is recommended.



Vehicles are not allowed on the field except for loading, unloading. After checking in, you may drive down an access road to the field, unload your camping gear, then park your car in the extended parking lot near the entrance to Cedar Ridge.

Please inquire with your registration if you have a camper van, trailer or RV that you are wanting to bring. Sleeping quarters on wheels are discouraged this year from being on the field with the tents and there is limited space available on the upper basketball court.

Bunkhouses

Those who aren't tent campers can choose to stay in a bunkhouse. Cedar Ridge has 4 heated bunkhouses that can sleep up to 16 people per room in 3 rooms each.

Campers provide their own linens for the bunk beds.

Gender identifying male and female bathrooms with showers are located nearby in a community bathhouse.

The ASCO committee tries to assign families with similar-aged children to shared bunk rooms. It is helpful if you talk to your CSS friends and give suggestions of bunkmates in your registration.

The bunkhouses are the most accessible accommodations with fairly easy access to the dining hall for those who may have difficulty trekking up and down the hills at Cedar Ridge.



Cabins, Platform Tents

Rustic cabins and platform tents hold 6-8 people. There is a cabin and a couple of platform tents next to the main lodge. Other cabins are near the pool along the treeline. There is a circle of platform tents in the woods above the pool area. The pool house community bathhouse is nearby. You will need to supply your own linens and blankets. Unlike the bunkhouses, these facilities are not heated and do not have electricity.



The Upper Grounds

The most luxurious accommodations are in the Upper Grounds which include a Loft, House, and Lower and Upper Lodges. The ASCO planning committee and coordinators have first preference for these rooms.

What
will
I
eat?

ASCO
food and
beverages



Meals

NEW THIS YEAR: Cedar Ridge will be preparing and providing our meals in the Dining Hall/Main Lodge. There will be a breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday and a Breakfast/Brunch on Sunday. Menus will be provided one week before the event.

There will be an option during registration to purchase a dinner of pizza and salad for Friday. No gluten or vegan pizza options will be available for this dinner. Many families grab food on the way out to ASCO.

Cedar Ridge will try to accommodate common dietary restrictions. Meals will contain vegetarian, dairy free, and gluten free options. However, if you have a limited diet and the menu does not look like it will work for you, please feel free to bring your own foods and talk to one of us about storage options.

Parents will be responsible for monitoring their children with food allergies. Meals served in the dining hall will be nut-free but there may be peanut butter or other food allergens at ASCO. Please share any dietary restrictions or allergies when you register.

We will have only one meal on Sunday. If you know you will be staying late into the day, please be prepared with some extra snacks for your famished kiddos (swimming will do that to you!).

Snacks - Bring Your Own (BYO)

Snacks and are not provided. Please bring snacks if your children need them. It can be fun to bring desserts to share during the evening in the dining hall (that do not require dish washing, such as cookies).

Beverages

A Coffee and Tea Station will be made available in the mornings and open throughout the day.

Water is available in the dining hall during meals and throughout the day. Families may bring coolers if they want a larger variety of drink selections.

This is a family event. **If you choose to bring or consume adult beverages, please do so responsibly and discreetly in closed containers.** It is important to store your beverages so they are not accessible to students.

Cedar Ridge does have garbage and recycling; however, please plan on packing out any recyclables you pack in.



Responsibility

A common saying of camp out is that you may rarely see your child (especially older children). ASCO does take a village, but parents are ultimately responsible for their children and the children they bring with them. Some campers bring walkie talkies to keep in touch with kids. In recent years, cell service at Cedar Ridge has improved considerably, making it possible to text each other.

Arranging check in locations or times with your kids throughout the day can be helpful. By midnight, all children and teens will need to be under the care of and chaperoned by their grownup or a grownup your family has made arrangements with.

Teens should not be allowed to roam the grounds after midnight without a chaperone.

If anyone sees a student (or adult) engaging in behavior that is not safe, responsible, or respectful to each other or the Cedar Ridge property they should feel supported in saying so.



What
will
I
do?

ASCO
Jobs

Jobs

Every adult (9th grade and above) has a one hour job shift while at ASCO. Coordinators may have longer shifts. It is very important adults show up to their shifts. Late arrivals and no shows can burden the other parent volunteers. When you register for ASCO, you will have the opportunity to request types of jobs and shifts and note special circumstances. We try to honor preferences as we can. If you have already finished your shift and see other parents are struggling to get things done, jump in and lend a hand. We do it for the kids.



DINING HALL ASSISTANCE Help with the flow during meals sweeping, wiping tables & clearing items left behind.

NIGHTTIME SAFETY MONITORS Upper Grounds, Lower Grounds, Wooded Trails

ARTS AND CRAFTS (Saturday & Sunday

ACTIVITIES - Lead or assist with an Event, Sports/Team and Field Games, or Host an Adult or Student Mixer

RIVER MONITORS Saturday & Sunday

FIRE PIT SAFETY CREW Friday & Saturday evenings

GAME ROOM CHAPERONES Friday & Saturday evenings

END OF EVENT Walk Through/Clean Up



**What's
going
on?**

**ASCO
Activities**



Capture the Flag

Friday and Saturday nights we have epic glow in the dark capture the flag games on the field. Little kids, big kids, and adults run and scream in semi-organized super fun chaos.

Soccer/Field Sports

Want to pull together a soccer game? How about kickball. There is a huge field, asking to be played in. Saturday afternoon soccer is a regular occurrence.

Sports Activities

Basketball

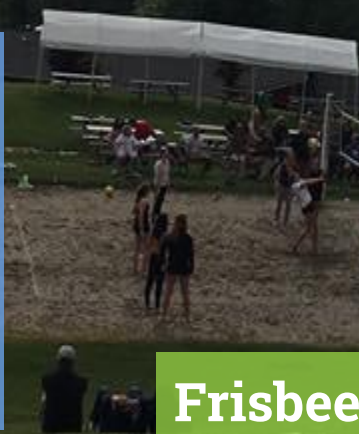
There are multiple basketball courts and many basketballs. Start a pickup game or sign up to host a scheduled game.

Volleyball

Cedar Ridge has a sand volleyball court. Start a pickup game or sign up to host a scheduled game. When there are not games in motion, the court tends to be a giant sandbox for younger kids.

Frisbee Golf

Cedar Ridge has a frisbee golf course. Bring your disks and pull together a golf game. Some of the baskets are in the tent area, so watch out for campers.



Water Activities

Water Mayhem

Many campers bring water guns or water balloons (please pick up the pieces) for DIY water battles. Sure to provide a lot of fun and likely a few tears.

Giant Slip 'n Slide

A giant hill + 350 ft of blue plastic + a water hose + baby shampoo = the most amazing slip 'n slide ever! Kids can go in groups. Adults try to make it to the end. The slip 'n slide is monitored by a Cedar Ridge employee and open Saturday and Sunday, weather permitting.



Heated Outdoor Pool



There is a heated outdoor pool staffed by Cedar Ridge lifeguards for most of the day on Saturday and part of Sunday. The pool is closed when there is not a lifeguard on duty. Young children and inexperienced swimmers require a chaperone to enter the pool area or water. If kids become too rowdy or do things that make other swimmers feel unsafe, they may be asked to leave the pool.

The River

Try to catch crawdads, look for rocks, bring a kayak. The creek that runs behind Cedar ridge is fun to explore. Adult supervision required.



Crafts

Create

There will be a variety of craft materials and activities for kids to explore and create. Crafts generally incorporate natural and found items such as flower petals, acorn tops, etc to create fairy houses or other creations. If you want to contribute items to crafts, start collecting.

Hot glue is often involved, so young children may need supervision.

T-Shirts

Create your own CSS painted All School Camp Out t-shirt. Bring a white t-shirt (or other white clothing like a bandana to decorate).



Host an Activity



Bring your talents

Do you want to host an early morning yoga class, a late night poker game, a cornhole or ladder ball tournament - whatever time or space allows? Let us know when you register to get your activity put on the schedule. Or bring your toys and talents for informal activities. Past favorites have included painting faces, and blowing bubbles.

A close-up photograph of a person wearing a blue hood and a pink mask with a spiderweb pattern. The person is smiling and looking directly at the camera. The background is dark, suggesting a nighttime setting with some distant lights visible.

**What's
the nightlife
like?**

**ASCO
Evening
Activities**



The Campfire

Each evening, when darkness settles in, people gather at the campfire. While camp out no longer has s'mores as an official activity (think hundreds of kids with flaming marshmallow torches), some parents choose to bring supplies and carefully supervise their children in creating the delicious gooey treats.

Sometimes we get lucky and a guitar playing parent may share some tunes around the campfire.

After 10pm, late nighters are welcome to hang at the campfire (as long as an adult is present to supervise the flames) but keep noise to a reasonable level.

The last people to leave need to make sure the fire is out.

The Friday Evening Parent Mixer



Our last Campout was in 2019. That means current ninth graders were able to attend ASCO in the 5th grade. New families meeting and getting to know returning families can be hard. Let's make it easy - and fun! On Friday night during the mayhem of capture the flag on the field, parents can gather up on the hill by the dining hall and get to know each other. Let's make sure new families to camp out feel welcome and those attending their last camp out feel loved.

The Saturday Evening Variety Show

Saturday evening, after dinner, the crowd gathers on the field at the campout "amphitheatre" to be entertained by the talents and antics of children and parents. Start preparing your act now.

Performers will sign up in the dining hall on Saturday morning. Each person can participate in one performance of 2-3 minutes. Rehearsed acts are appreciated.

The Saturday Night Mid-Level Mixer

After the variety show, the mid-level students can make their way up to the community room in the upper grounds for a dance/party hosted and chaperoned by brave mid-level parents. The success of this party is largely dependent on the availability of snacks, so if you are a mid-level family you might consult with your student and bring some snacks to share. This event celebrates the incoming 6th graders at their first camp out dance and the outgoing 8th graders at their last.

NEW AND IMPROVED

Check out the expanded **Game Room** located under the dining hall for kids of all ages. Young children will need to be chaperoned by their parent or guardian.



Late Night in the Dining Hall

Quiet hours begin at 10pm.

With many of the kids and adults still up and wanting to socialize, we will have the fire burning until 11:30 Friday and Saturday evening. The dining hall and game room will remain open until 11:30 both evenings and are a place to hangout, play games and visit while letting sleeping campers have some quiet.

Safety monitor shifts will end promptly at midnight. At this time, all kids and teens must be under the care of and chaperoned by their grown up.

Campers may bring treats to share during the late night fun. This is great - as long as they do not create dirty dishes, as the kitchen is closed.

S'mores are a popular treat by the fire. Please provide your family's own smore-making supplies.

If you want to host a scheduled tabletop session or a card game in the evening, let us know. We can post a notice in the dining hall. Campers are encouraged to bring games for community use, but please put your name on the box.

New and improved—the Game Room, located below the dining hall has added more choices including large collection of games and activities.



**What
else do
I need to
know?**

**ASCO
Bits and
Pieces**

Registration

Registration opens April 11th. We will have an online registration open and in-person registration events at the school.

Registration is a 2 step process:

Step 1. Fill out the ASCO google form

Step 2. Pay using the Konstella link provided in the registration form, or bring a check to the CSS office.

The cost to attend campout includes three meals on Saturday and breakfast/brunch on Sunday.

\$80 per person ages 15 - adult

\$60 per student ages 5 - 14.

Ages 4 and under are free.

If your family qualifies for reduced lunch, the ASCO fee is discounted to \$60 per person ages 15 to adult and \$40 per student ages 5-14.

If your family qualifies for free lunch through direct certification or by application, the ASCO fee is discounted to \$30 per person ages 15 to adult and \$10 per student ages 5-14.

In addition we have included in our planning a limited number of hardship scholarships for families in need.

Email ptatreasurer@creativescienceschool.org for assistance.



Job and Housing Assignment

A photograph of three people sitting in folding chairs in a grassy campsite. On the left, a woman with curly hair and glasses sits in a red chair. In the middle, a person with long hair and sunglasses sits in a blue chair, with an acoustic guitar resting on their lap. On the right, a person with short hair and sunglasses sits in a green chair. Behind them is a large white tent with an orange top and a blue tarp hanging from the side. A black SUV is parked behind the tent, and another blue tent is visible to the right. The background is filled with green trees.

Approximately 2 weeks before ASCO (mid-May) you will receive an email with your housing and job assignment. The ASCO planning committee thanks you in advance for your patience as we sort through the registration data and make assignments.

During onsite check-in, you will receive a packet that includes a reminder of your job shift and housing assignment.

What To PACK

Clothes for every possible weather scenario (or watch the weather closely in the days prior). A few extra layers and beanies recommended if tent camping.

Swimwear and Towels

Personal items

Tents and bedding if tent camping. Extra Blankets. Bedding linens if in a platform tent, cabin, or bunkhouse.

Flashlights

Plenty of snacks, including s'more fixings, and drinks (if you want something other than water or coffee).

A few dollars if you think you will visit the Cedar Ridge camp store. (New this year.)

Sunscreen (the baby shampoo on the slip n' slide washes it away)



Optional and fun:
Board games
Card games
Lawn games
Glow sticks



Check-In/Out

Check in will be at **5:00pm Friday**. No early birds, unless you are assigned to a Friday afternoon shift and have been told you have early check-in (registration or Friday dinner). This means kids can attend their afterschool enrichment activities as they usually do.

You will need to check-in at the onsite registration table **BEFORE** driving down to the field to choose your tent site.

Check out is at **3:00pm Sunday**. Most families start to slowly leave after breakfast into the early afternoon. If you are some of the last to leave, please look around for items that should be picked up or thrown away.

CSS Students and Families are Safe, Responsible, and Respectful

Leave Cedar Ridge better than we found it. Anyone found intentionally destroying Cedar Ridge property will be asked to leave Camp Out with their family.

Leave your furry friends at home. Cedar Ridge does not allow pets.

Leave your drones at home. At previous camp outs, campers have complained about the use of drones.

Leave your wheels at home. No skateboards, bikes, or roller skates.

Vehicles should be parked in approved parking spots only. They are allowed in the field only for loading and unloading.

Observe all Cedar Ridge posted signs and rules (e.g. pool and slip n' slide closure).

Be kind to each other and have fun!

**Did we miss anything? Send us an email
with questions or for assistance.**

ASCO@creativescienceschool.org





**Created by
your 2023
ASCO team.
May this be
the best
ASCO yet.**

**Photos by campout attendees
posted to the CSS Facebook
Page, from the Cedar Ridge
website, and stock images.**