

SOLVAY Middle School

Diane Hagemann, Principal
4th, 5th Grade

Paula Kopp, Principal
6th, 7th, 8th, Grade

299 Bury Drive Syracuse, NY 13209
(315) 487-7061 Fax: (315) 484-1444

March 1, 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian of SMS Grade 5-8 students:

Does your child like to work in groups on meaningful projects?

Does your child struggle with reading or writing and want to become better at it?

Is your child an English language learner seeking to improve skills in that new language?

Is your child anxious about the transition from middle to high school?

If your answer is yes to one or more of these questions, your child may want to participate in a **FREE** summer experience called ***Inquiry University***—InquiryU for short— jointly offered by Syracuse University and the Solvay UFSD in July here at SMS. Students will work with Solvay teachers, SU faculty, and SU graduate students. InquiryU has two parts:

- **The three-week writing program, which is open to students in Grades 5 through 8.** This program will allow your child to explore how writing can be used in several subjects, including math, science, and social studies. Groups of no more than 15 students at a time will be assigned to teams of 3-4 teachers, ensuring lots of adult attention. Since the ability to write well is a key to academic success, their work will translate into positive results in future studies. This program will be held from July 10-28, Monday through Thursday.
- **The four-week intensive English language arts support program, which is open to students in Grades 5-6 with approval of one of the Solvay principals.** This program includes one-to-one reading and writing tutoring and small group literacy instruction. This program will be held from July 3-28, Monday through Friday, with the 4th of July holiday off. Students in this program must also enroll in the writing program.

Both parts of InquiryU will be held from 9:00 AM to 12 noon. Transportation will be provided, along with a mid-morning snack and all supplies needed for participation.

This program is not a substitute for regular summer school. Students will not receive grades or credit for their participation. They will, however, increase their confidence and skill with reading, writing, and learning.

If you are interested in having your child attend InquiryU, please complete the form below and return it to school by May 15. Students in grade 5 should return the form to their homeroom teachers, and students in grades 6-8 should return the form to their social studies teacher. You will receive a confirmation letter in the mail that will explain further details and will include additional forms for you to complete. If you have questions about this opportunity, do not hesitate to call or email one of us. We look forward to working with your child.

Sincerely,

Diane Hagemann
Grade 4-5 Principal

Paula Kopp
Grade 6-8 Principal

☐ I would like my 5th through 8th grader to participate in the writing program from July 10 through July 28. **RETURN by May 15**

☐ I would like my 5th or 6th grader to participate in the intensive ELA portion of from July 3 through July 28. **RETURN by May 15**

Student Name	Current Grade	Gender
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Parent/Guardian Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Email Address

Phone Number(s)

***Solvay Union Free School District
Lawrence Wright
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*PO Box 980
Superintendent of Schools
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