

Expedition Mars **2018**

Application Form

Due no later than Thurs. February 1, 2018
7:50 a.m.—no exceptions, please!

Will County Regional Superintendent Shawn Walsh has invited W. B. Orenic **fifth and sixth** grade students to become members of the Will County Aerospace Team and participate in a simulation of an actual space mission to the planet Mars. The “Expedition Mars” simulation will take place at the Challenger Learning Center, Lake Calumet Campus, Purdue University, **Hammond, Indiana, on Saturday morning, April 14, 2018.**

As Mission Specialists, students will join other students from schools across Will County and will conduct NASA experiments aboard two different simulators working on Mars. Each WBO student will be a member of one of the following teams aboard either the Challenger or Columbia Shuttle simulators: **Communications, Navigation, Rover, or Space Weather.**

Expedition Mars is a wonderful program for the science-minded student. The program promotes teamwork, communication, problem solving and decision making and provides students with an authentic encounter with STEM: science, technology, engineering and math.

To prepare for this mission, students **must commit to attending all** training sessions, on **Fridays** at WBO. A schedule of the dates and times is found on the back of this sheet. **Parents must be available to pick students up promptly at 4:00 p.m. on each training day. An activity bus is also available at 4:00 p.m.**

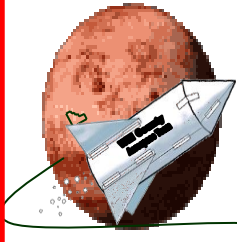
Also, since much training is needed to successfully participate, students must commit to **attending the Expedition Mars event**, held on **Saturday, April 14, 2018.** Students will need transportation to the Professional Development Alliance building, on McDonough and Caterpillar Drive, in Joliet, at 7:15 a.m., and from this site at 1:00 p.m. A charter bus will transport the students to and from the Challenger Learning Center in Hammond, Indiana.

Finally, mission students are expected to attend the **Return to Earth Celebration** held on **Thursday, April 26, 2018.** The location of this event will be at our own **W. B. Orenic Intermediate School.** All family members are invited to this celebration also. Students will present their views on the experiences and receive awards. Students must provide their own transportation to this event.

This is a unique experience for students; however, there are only 14 positions we can fill. Therefore, students must carefully fill out the attached application, providing all the information requested. This includes commitment signatures from the student and their parents/guardians, teacher recommendations, short answers to questions, a 100 word or less essay outlining the student’s attributes and reasons for attending, and a schedule of the student’s after school activities.

If you have any questions regarding the program, please call Ms. Corp, Ms. Hill, or Mrs. VanderMeer at **(815-577-6759).**

Please remove this sheet from the application and keep it for reference.



Expedition Mars

Training Schedule 2018

Friday, February 9	2:30 – 4:00	Welcome and Overview
Friday, February 16	2:30 – 4:00	Mission Specialist Training TShirt Fee Due
Friday, February 23	2:30 – 4:00	Mission Specialist Training
Friday, March 9	2:30 – 4:00	Mission Specialist Training
Friday, March 16	2:30 – 4:00	Mission Specialist Training
Friday, April 6	2:30 – 4:00	Mission Specialist Training, Permission Forms Due
Friday, April 13	2:30 – 4:00	Mission Assignments provided Design Patch completed and submitted. Final Instructions and directions.

Saturday, April 14, 2018 7:15 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Mission to Mars Expedition

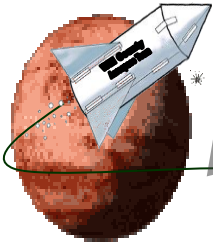
**Report to the Professional Development Alliance by 7:15 A. M.
2705 McDonough Street
Joliet, Illinois**

- Buses will transport students to and from the Challenger Learning Center in Hammond, Indiana. Students will be asked to bring their own snacks for the bus ride.
- Parents must be waiting at the Professional Development Alliance no later than 1:00 p.m.

Friday, April 20 2:30 – 4:00 Planning for “Return to Earth” Celebration

Thursday, April 26th - 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Return to Earth Celebration
to be held at
Orenic Intermediate School
Plainfield, Illinois

Families are invited to attend.



Expedition Mars 2018

Application Form

Due no later than Thurs. February 1, 2018
7:50 a.m.—no exceptions, please!

Name: _____
Print neatly

Grade/Team: _____ **Date Applied:** _____, 2018

Science Teacher _____

I, _____ wish to be
(Print name on line above.)

considered as a Mission Specialist to the
Expedition Mars program.

If chosen for the Will County Aerospace
Team, I understand that I must:

Activity Bus # _____

Subdivision _____

Check your regular way of getting home from activities.

Car rider Walker Activity Bus

- Attend and participate in:
 - ❖ all training sessions held on Mondays after school until 4:00 p.m.
 - ❖ the **Expedition Mars** event, at the Challenger Learning Center, in Hammond, IN, on Saturday, April 14, 2018 (7:15 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.).
 - ❖ the follow-up Return to Earth Celebration on Thursday evening, April 26, 2018 at Orenic Intermediate School, Plainfield, Illinois
- Pay the t-shirt fee of **\$10.00** cash by February 16, 2018.

Student Signature _____

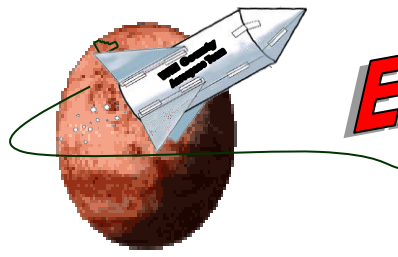
My son/daughter has my permission to participate in the **Expedition Mars** program sponsored by the Will County Regional Office of Education. I understand the commitment of my son/daughter to this program. In addition:

I understand I must provide transportation for my son/daughter :

- ❖ from each afterschool training session promptly at **4:00 p.m.** unless he/she is taking the activity bus (see attached bus route list).
- ❖ to and from the Professional Development Alliance, 2705 McDonough Street, Joliet, on the day of the mission. (Buses will transport students to and from the Center.).
- ❖ to and from the Return To Earth Celebration held at Orenic Intermediate School on Thursday evening, April 26, 2018. Families are invited to attend the celebration.

Parent/ Guardian Signature _____

The entire application must be returned to your science teacher by Thursday, February 1, 2018, 7:50 a.m. Sorry, no exceptions.



Expedition Mars

Please write your answers in the space provided:

- ❖ What expectations do you have regarding this experience?
- ❖ What do you think you will gain as a result of your participation?

- ❖ What skills and abilities do you have to contribute to make this mission successful?
List them in the space provided below.

Please include the following information: Non-school and school activities that may impact the training and Expedition Mars event.

MY OTHER ACTIVITIES:

I am involved in non-school activities: Please indicate day of week and activity.

On Monday, I _____ time: _____

On Tuesday, I _____ time: _____

On Wednesday, I _____ time: _____

On Thursday, I _____ time: _____

On Friday, I _____ time: _____

On Saturday, I _____ time: _____

I am involved in the following school activities after school: Please indicate day of week and activity.

On Monday, I _____ time: _____

On Tuesday, I _____ time: _____

On Wednesday, I _____ time: _____

On Thursday, I _____ time: _____

On Friday, I _____ time: _____

On Saturday, I _____ time: _____

IMPORTANT:

At least 2 teacher recommendations are needed to complete your application. **Please cut the two forms apart that are found on page 4 and ask two team teachers if they will fill out a recommendation for you. Make sure your name is written on both forms.** The teachers will send the forms back to the science teacher on your team when they have completed this task. Please do not ask them for it, but you may ask if they sent it.



.....

Student Name _____ Grade/Team _____

Would you recommend this student for the Expedition Mars program? Circle: **Yes** **No**

Comments:



Teacher Signature _____

Teacher: Please return to your team science teacher when complete—no later than Thurs. February 1, 2018 (7:50 a.m.). Students are not to see this completed form. Thank you for your help.



.....

Student Name _____ Grade/Team _____

Would you recommend this student for the Expedition Mars program? Circle: **Yes** **No**

Comments:



Teacher Signature _____

Teacher: Please return to your team science teacher when complete—no later than Thurs. February 1, 2018 (7:50 a.m.). Students are not to see this completed form. Thank you for your help.