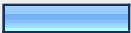
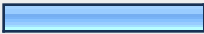

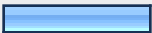


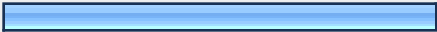

## Packages For Camp Mac Campers

1. An item that we felt we needed more input on came up in comments from our recent parent survey. Several parents suggested we institute a package policy of some sort for our campers. Some camps do not allow packages of any kind, most well-run camps we know of do not allow food, candy or gum to be received or kept by campers in their cabins, and still other camps limit the total number of packages each of their campers can receive. On one hand, we don't want to unduly restrict a parent's right to send a gift to his or her child, yet on the other, we certainly understand and sympathize with those parents who feel that it can become a sort of competition to see which child in a cabin can get the most packages. To be honest, it's rare that the packages contain anything a child at camp really "needs" - there's already more to do and enjoy here than they're likely to have at home. Much of the time, it seems that either the parent or the child is simply looking for a way to feel connected as the child learns to spread his or her wings. Of course our kids get over 200 emails a day all summer long from their parents and grandparents, and a number of letters as well. Our own observations tell us that nothing is treasured more by parents or children than a simple hand-written note either asking or telling about what's going on at camp. They were handled by a loved one, written in his or her own hand. Opened with excitement and read immediately, they're carefully set aside in a box or on a shelf or in a drawer, re-read more than once, saved and brought out years later. Packages get opened and forgotten, emails are often tossed as soon as they're read. Another question: With the current state of our economy and 3/4 of our camp parents telling us they're feeling the financial squeeze, is a package to camp truly money well invested? Packages sent to camp are not likely building lasting memories, and some parents seem to suggest that they're indicative of the past decades' "I want something now" thinking at a time many families have begun to invest their time and money in meeting longer-term goals. Based on these observations and 60 years of experience, a "letters only" policy would be our preference. But we believe this is a decision best made by our camp parents. We hope you'll take a minute and let us know what you think. We don't expect unanimity, but if a significant majority agrees on a recommendation, we'll give it a try. If opinions vary widely, we'll probably just leave the policy as is, since that's the least restrictive option.




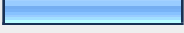
		Response Percent	Response Count
I would prefer to leave the policy as is, with no restrictions on packages for campers.		19.0%	48
<b>I would prefer to restrict packages to no more than one package per camper per week.</b>		<b>30.4%</b>	<b>77</b>
I would prefer to have a "zero package" policy for campers (with the exception of birthdays at camp).		28.1%	71
I would prefer to restrict emails and eliminate packages - I think parents with children away at camp have a real opportunity to connect with our children and model a desired behavior by writing them the kind of letters we expect them to write us.		22.5%	57

	Comments	119
	<b>answered question</b>	<b>253</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>	<b>8</b>

**2. If the policy changes, would you prefer we make the change for the 2009 summer? Or would you recommend we hold off making changes until 2010?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Make changes, if any, for summer of 2009</b>		66.5%	165
Wait and make changes, if any, in 2010		33.5%	83
	<b>answered question</b>		<b>248</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>		<b>13</b>

**3. Term(s) your child(ren) will attend camp:**

		Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Jr. 2 Week</b>		40.8%	106
1st 4 Week		35.8%	93
3 Week		4.2%	11
2nd 4 Week		27.3%	71
	<b>answered question</b>		<b>260</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>		<b>1</b>