Kaupus Camp 2026

Sponsored by the Mount Carmel Area School District

In conjunction with:

Mother Maria Kaupas Center

CSIU/STEAMS

(**S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, **A**rts, **M**ath in **M**ilton, **M**t. Carmel, **S**hamokin)

Bucknell University

Mount Carmel Downtown Inc.

Student and Parent/Guardian Handbook

Mount Carmel Area and CSIU STEAMS

Administration:

Mr. Pete Cheddar, Superintendent

Mr. John Darrah, JHS Principal

Mr. Aaron Domanski, HS Principal

Ms. Cassandra Niglio, Assistant Athletic Director

Mrs. Amanda Stepenaskie, Elementary Principal

Ms. Heather Billman, Elementary Assistant Principal

Mrs. Nicole Edmondson, Special Education Asst. Coordinator

Mr. Mike Tanney, CSIU/STEAMS site Coordinator

Ms. Heather Billman, Kaupas Camp Coordinator

Mother Maria Kaupas Center Purpose:
The Mother Maria Kaupas Center seeks to provide volunteers the opportunity to build community while integrating faith, service, and justice into their lives within the Mount Carmel Area. Some of the community building opportunities offered include local service and reflection experiences. We hope that through these experiences people will form ongoing relationships, especially within Mount Carmel and the surrounding communities. For more information please see https://mothermariakaupascenter.wordpress.com/.

CSIU/STEAMS Involvement:
STEAMS is a Federal 21st Century Community Learning Center grant program funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and administered by the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit 16. STEAMS staff will provide a high quality and engaging curriculum throughout the camp. Students involved with STEAMS should enroll with Mr. Mike Tanney, site coordinator.

Kaupas Camp Involvement:
Students who are not enrolled with the STEAMS program will enroll as a full-time camper with MS. Heather Billman, Kaupas Camp coordinator.

Bucknell University Involvement:
Bucknell University athletic department, coaches and athletes will provide fun and meaningful activities during most camp days. A complete schedule of activities will be available closer to the start of camp.

Dates:
The summer camp will be held over three weeks.

Week #1 - Monday, June 15 to Thursday, June 19
Week #2 - Monday, June 22 to Thursday, June 25
Week #3 - Monday, June 29 to Thursday, July 2.

Hours:
The Kaupas camp will be held from 8:30am to 12:00pm Monday-Thursday.

Lunch:
Students will be able to participate in the free summer lunch program held at the Elementary School. Adult lunches will be available at a cost of $2. Lunch will be served for camp students at 12:00 pm. Morning snacks will also be provided.

Attendance:
Each student will be supervised by a STEAMS instructional staff member and/or Mount Carmel Area staff. Daily program attendance is highly encouraged. It has been proven that consistent attendance in summer programs leads to improved academic and social behaviors during the regular school year. It is understood that students will have obligations throughout the summer. If you anticipate that your child will be absent, please send a note or contact the Site Coordinator, Mr. Mike Tanney (570-246-9321) for STEAM's students and Ms. Heather Billman (570-205-5980) or (billlmanh@mca.k12.pa.us). **Any student who is consistently absent without a note from their parent or guardian will be removed from the camp roster. Three absences without permission may result in removal from camp roster.** Please do not call the school district to report absences.

Clearances:
All Kaupas Camp and STEAMS staff members are required to possess the following clearances as a matter of safety for our students:

- Pennsylvania State Police Criminal History Check
- Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Child Abuse History Clearance
- FBI Report (Fingerprinting)

Transportation: STEAMS will provide bus transportation for student arrival. Students will be picked up from their regular school year stop as stated on the STEAMS registration form. Parents/Guardians will be notified of place and time. The Mount Carmel Area School District will provide student transportation home. *(Students attending the Kaupas Camp not enrolled through STEAMS may need to find their own transportation. For more information on transportation please contact Heather Billman.)*

Curriculum:
The goal of STEAMS/Kaupas Camp is to spark and sustain interest, engagement, and achievement in STEM content; and evidence-based programs and activities to help students meet state and local academic achievement standards. Accordingly, this project will implement a variety of robust evidence-based STEM activities.

Each four-hour day will be shared between STEAMS academic curriculum and Bucknell University athletic department activities.

Discipline:
All students are expected to adhere to Kaupas Camp rules and expectations, and the Mount Carmel Area School District Code of Conduct. Administration and staff reserve the right to remove a student from the camp at any time due to discipline or behavior issues. The camp will enforce a "three strikes and you're out" policy. Any behavior that involves fighting, weapons, vandalism, or drugs/alcohol will result in immediate termination.

Technology:
The Mount Carmel Area School District will provide the use of the Internet & Email. Students will abide by the Computer Use And User Agreement contract. Students can check the account information section on the Mount Carmel Area Web Page (http://www.mca.k12.pa.us).

Nurse and Medication:
All medications should be given outside of camp hours. Most medications, even those scheduled for three times per day, can usually be given outside camp hours. The camp will not provide cough, cold, flu medication, allergy medications, or antibiotics.

School policy prohibits students from carrying ANY medication that is prescribed or purchased "over the counter." Students requiring oral medication during camp hours must have their parent or guardian come to the school to administer the medication.

Field Trips:
As part of the Kaupas Camp program, students may be taken on field trips requiring bus transportation. Such trips are made only with the permission of parents/guardians. When such trips are taken or planned, permission slips will be sent home to be signed by the parents/guardians. Written permission must be secured from parents/guardians of students to participate in field trips.

PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received the Kaupas Camp 2026 Handbook. I have read, understand, and will comply with all camp policies and procedures described in this handbook.

Student Name _____

Parent/Guardian (print name) _____

Parent/Guardian (signature) _____

Parent/Guardian phone number in event of emergency _____

Parent Student Insurance Information
Policy Number _____
Provider _____

In addition to this form, the **STEAMS Summer 2026 Registration** form must also be completed and returned to Mr. Mike Tanney at the Mount Carmel Area JH-SH school office by May 21, 2026, for any student who is enrolled in the camp through the **STEAMS** program.

21st Century Community Learning Centers
Soaring Beyond Expectations

STEAM^{3}S is a Federal 21st Century Community Learning Center grant program funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and administered by the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit.

As part of the Kaupas Camp students may take part in athletic camps held on the campus of Mount Carmel Area and Bucknell University. Please sign and return to Ms. Heather Billman prior to the start of Kaupas Camp 2026.

I, _____(participant name), recognize that certain risks and dangers exist through my participation in this athletic activity. These risks include personal injury and the loss or damage to personal property, due to activities that are inherent in sports.

I understand that Mount Carmel Area shall assume no responsibility or liability for me for accident, illness or loss or damage of personal property.

I acknowledge and do hereby assume all risks inherent in the use of Mount Carmel Area athletic facilities and in connection with this activity, and I for myself, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns do hereby expressly release and discharge the releases from all claims, demands, liability actions or judgments of any kind weather caused by the negligence of said releases or otherwise which I now have or in the future against said releases or any of them arising out of my participation in this recreational activity. I certify that to the best of my knowledge,

I am in good physical health and am therefore able to participate in the athletic activity. Further, I understand and accept that if I become physically injured it is my responsibility to provide payment for any medical services rendered.

I hereby grant all partners of the Mount Carmel Area Kaupas Camp to photograph and/or video my child and to publish it and identify him/her while he/she is participating in camp events.

Finally, I recognize that my participation in this recreational activity is of my free will, such that, I may cease continued participation in the athletic activity at my discretion and at any point.

My signature on this document certifies that I have personal medical insurance and that I understand the risks and terms involved in participation. Further, I understand that if I am under eighteen (18) years of age I am required confirmation of this agreement by my parents or guardian.

Participant Signature and Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date _____

Parent/Guardian phone number in event of emergency_____