

Dear Sacramento Schools,

For 50 years the Sly Park Conservation and Environmental Education Center has provided students with a uniquely instructional and relevant program that allows them to grow socially and emotionally. Our program provides a quality outdoor education experience, focused on appreciation and understanding of the natural environment based on Next Generation Science Standards. Our Sly Park staff is committed to providing a program that immerses students in academic and personal growth opportunities.

As you might imagine, running such a quality program is costly. We strive to keep our program affordable, and as such, we have not increased fees at Sly Park since 2007. To maintain our program's integrity and meet the increased cost of our daily operations, we are implementing a modest fee increase of \$20 per student, or \$4 per day for a 5-day/4-night program effective in January 2021. Even with this fee increase, the cost of a 5-day/4-night program will be \$255, which is still lower than comparable programs such as:

1. Shady Creek (Nevada City) for a 5-day/4-night program \$265
2. Foothill Horizons (Sonora) for a 5-day/4-night program \$300

Note: Sly Park is the only program where all teachers are required to hold a science credential.

We understand that for many schools that visit Sly Park, some students have difficulty attending due to cost and any increase is significant. Fortunately, we have great partners in the Friends of Sly Park Board (FOSP). The FOSP is committed to helping offset some student costs through donations and souvenir sales dedicated to scholarships for Title 1 Schools and students based on need. Some assistance is available through our Friends of Sly Park.

For more information about requesting a scholarship, please visit https://slyparkcenter.org/pdf/Sly_Park_Scholarship_Form.pdf (FOSP Scholarship Form)

If you have not been to Sly Park recently, we encourage you to visit during our 50 Year Celebration events. <https://slyparkcenter.org/pdf/Sly%20Park%2050%20Year%20Celebration.pdf> (PDF flier)