

EIGHTH GRADE PARENTS' MEETING
WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP
Thursday, April 21, & Wednesday, April 27, 2016

<u>Chaperones:</u>	Alan Mills	Carmen Warren	Meagan Moore
	Todd Albers	Matt Joost	Brianna Kunstman

Electronic Information - Please read thoroughly all information you received electronically, including this letter, an itinerary, a Permissions/Expectations form (please complete and submit by Wednesday, May 25), and health information. Remember, any medications being sent on the trip need to be delivered to the Health Office by Wednesday, May 25 with proper documentation.

Cost - Students should bring a minimum of \$270.00 for meals. Prepaid debit cards are suggested along with a number of small bills. Each student should bring some cash on the trip, even if they will use a debit card for most meals. We will be collecting \$20 from each student early on the trip. This will be used to pay for dinner on Tuesday night and for the tips/cards for our bus drivers.

Departure - We will leave Prairie at 8:00 p.m., Monday, May 30th. Students should be here at 7:15 p.m. We will be traveling in a Discovery Lines bus. Students may wear jeans on the bus (no pajamas).

Arrival home - We will arrive back at Prairie at approximately 8:00 a.m., Monday, June 6th. Please make arrangements to pick up your child at that time. In case of late arrival, your child will call you.

Assignments – This year, students will use their iPads to create electronic scrapbooks of their trip. These will serve as the assessment tool for the trip, but will also become a keepsake for the students. Students have been provided with detailed instructions for these scrapbooks. Parents are encouraged to look over the student packet, found on their iPads. While students will have their iPads with them at all times, including on the bus and at the hotel, apps and access will be restricted by the chaperones for the duration of the trip. As the students have been reminded, the iPads are being brought as an educational tool, not a toy.

Items to bring

- iPad and charger with lightweight cinch-sack/drawstring backpack
- cell phone & charger (if you choose to send one)
- shorts to wear in the motel and for touring
- rain wear, jackets, sweatshirts
- swimsuit, towel, and plastic bag for wet suit, etc.
- two pairs of walking shoes; no sandals
- casual clothes for everyday wear - think Casual Friday dress (no: athletic team apparel, tank tops/spaghetti strap tops, hats); dress clothes for theater (boys-slacks/collared shirt; girls-dress or skirt/blouse)
- pens or pencils
- I.D. - If students have any form of identification, please have them bring it

- one suitcase; one carry-on
- snacks are fine for the bus, no gum or water flavor packets - go light on the junk food!
- handheld video games, iPods/MP3/headphones, and magazines for the bus
- small blanket and pillow for the bus
- label all possessions, so they may be returned if lost
- wristwatch and camera (if no cell phone)
- NO video game systems, walkie-talkies, or iPod speaker docks

Follow us on Tumblr™ - As we have the last few years, several of the chaperones (and even a few students) will post photos and video each day to a Tumblr™ account. Feel free to follow our trip yourself. Visit <http://prairieschooldctrip.tumblr.com/> to see the latest.

Cell phones – Students may bring a cell phone on the trip. If your child brings a cell phone on the trip, your child will be responsible for their phone the entire trip. Students will be allowed to carry their phones with them throughout the trip. As the students know, the Prairie Acceptable Use Policy remains in effect during the trip, and that policy does apply to personal electronic devices (cell phones and iPads) while on the trip.

Phone calls - If, for an emergency, a child needs to be contacted, please call Alan Mills at (262)308-4780, Carmen Warren (262)994-7859, or Todd Albers (262)993-4404 and we will notify your child.

Behavior - If, for some reason, a child's behavior proves to be impossible to control, it is the chaperones' responsibility to send that child home. If disciplinary action is necessary, **airfare for the trip home is the parent's responsibility.**