



## The Math & Science Exploratory School

Middle School 447  
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April 30, 2018

Dear Gr. 8 Families,

The time is almost here! Next week we will be leaving for Washington. The Eighth Grade Team is very excited about this trip and we hope that it will create educational as well as long lasting memories for all our participants.

This letter will provide you with final information and reminders about our trip. Make sure you and your child take the time to look carefully through the attachments. Please contact Mr. Smith if you have any questions.

### **Trip Times and Dates:**

**ALL students attending the trip will meet by the 500 Pacific St. Entrance at 7:00 AM on Wednesday, May 9, for check in and attendance.**

The dates of the trip are Wednesday, May 9 to Friday, May 11. An itinerary for the trip will be posted on our website. We will leave the school for Washington, D.C. at 7:30 AM on the day of the trip and will return at approximately 6:30 PM on May 11. **Please be sure to make arrangements for the prompt drop off and pick up of your child for this trip!**

### **Packing List, Food, and Spending Money:**

Attached you will find a sample packing list for this trip. Please limit luggage to one bag and one carry on.

Included in the cost of the trip are 2 breakfasts, 2 lunch and 2 dinners. Students are responsible for their own lunch for Wednesday. They **MUST** bring a bagged lunch on the first day. Students may have the opportunity to visit museum shops and outdoor markets. Consider bringing spending money to purchase souvenirs, etc. The total spending money should not exceed \$40.00.

### **Cell Phones and Electronics**

Students may bring cell phones, but they should be used only for emergencies and when sanctioned by teachers. Cell phones provide a distraction during museum programs and instructional activities. In the event a student's phone is used in an inappropriate manner or is not put away when asked by a teacher or chaperone, it will be confiscated and the family notified.

Students are allowed to bring handheld electronic games, iPods, MP3 players and/or digital cameras. Students are not to bring any laptops, portable DVD players, or full-size gaming systems. In addition, no one is to bring expensive jewelry. Game devices may **only** be used on the bus and in rooms. ***Note: MS 447, Comfort Inn Gateway and Go Educational Tours will not be responsible for any lost or stolen items, including cell phones and electronics.***

### **Medications**

**If your child will be taking medication(s) on the trip, please inform us as soon as possible. You must place all medications and specific dosage instructions in a labeled Ziploc bag and have your child give them directly to their designated teacher chaperone on the morning of the trip.**

### **Groups**

All students will be assigned a bus group and an educational group with designated chaperones. Our chaperones will be given specific instructions on behavioral expectations of students, as well as any special needs your child might have.

### **Behavior and Trip Refunds:**

All hotel, bus, and museum reservations have been booked and paid for.

***PLEASE NOTE: If your child is asked not to attend the trip due to behavior concerns or if a student or chaperone is unable to attend the trip, NO refunds will be given at this point. If for any reason your child acts inappropriately in Washington, it will be the family's responsibility to pick up their child.***

Each night the students will observe a strict curfew of 10:00 PM. If curfew is broken, it will result in parent contact and consequences will be put in place when we return to school, including possible removal from end-of-year activities.

### **General Trip Expectations**

This school trip is an extension of the classroom curriculum. When traveling away from home, we must always remember that we are representatives of our school and community. We want to leave a positive impression on the people we meet.

- Students will use appropriate behavior and language at all times.
- Students will be considerate of adults, classmates, and everyone we come in contact with.
- Students will participate in all of the trip activities.

- Students must remain with their designated group and chaperone(s) throughout the trip.
- Students will assume full responsibility for their personal valuables.

### **Bus Expectations**

- Students are allowed to bring one piece of luggage and one carry-on bag.
- All allowed electronic equipment must be portable with headphones, and kept in their carry-on bag.
- Luggage must be tagged with the name of the student.
- Students are to remain seated while the bus is in route to any destination.
- Students must not make excessive noise on the bus.

### **Hotel Expectations**

- Students are expected to demonstrate good behavior while in the hotel.
- Yelling, screaming or loud talking is unacceptable.
- Students should come to breakfast at the hotel dressed for the day.
- Hotel Phones will be turned off for long distance calling. Calls to parent/guardian should be made on your cellular phone at appropriate times. **Any inappropriate phone calls using the hotel phone, including pranks, will result in consequences and parental notification.**
- Inside doors between adjacent rooms **must remain closed and locked.**
- Students are responsible for their valuables. Do not leave valuables in your room while touring.
- Students are not allowed to leave their rooms after curfew. ***If there is an emergency, contact a chaperone. If there is no emergency and a student leaves his/her room, consequences will result. For safety reasons we must enforce this rule.***
- All room items (e.g. towels, blankets, pillows, etc.) are the property of the hotel.
- Students are responsible for any damage to the hotel room or theft of hotel items.
- There will be no use of the hotel pool or gym facilities.

### **Emergency Phone Numbers**

Comfort Inn Gateway  
45155 Dulles Plaza  
Sterling, VA 20166  
703 - 471 - 5005

GO Educational Tours  
855 - 446 - 8687 (before 5 pm)

Trip Leader (Ms. Rusch)  
917-586-7074 (after 5 pm; for true emergencies only)

**Staff Chaperones**

Ms. Farrell

Mr. George

Mr. Hagan

Ms. LaSalle

Ms. Martin

Ms. Rusch

Ms. Stanislaus

Ms. Willis

There will also be 9 parent chaperones.

*Warm Regards,*

*Eli Smith, Assistant Principal, and the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team*

## **MS 447 Packing List for Washington, DC**

(Average daytime temperatures for beginning of May are in the low 70s, and at night are in the mid-50s.)

**It is a good idea to check the weather before your trip so you can pack appropriately!**

\_\_\_\_\_ REQUIRED: Bagged lunch for Wednesday

### **CLOTHING**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Pairs of COMFORTABLE shoes/sneakers/boots
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Pairs Underwear
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Pairs of Pants
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6 Pairs of Socks
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pajamas
- \_\_\_\_\_ Small sleeping bag, if preferred
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3 long sleeve T-shirts or thermals
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1 spring jacket and sweaters, and a hat (It will be chilly at night!)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1 small folding umbrella, rain jacket, or poncho
- \_\_\_\_\_ Small backpack for the day, pens/pencils

### **TOILETRIES**

All liquids must fit into one quart-sized baggy. In your liquids bag, you may wish to have travel-sized bottles.

- \_\_\_\_\_ SOAP!
- \_\_\_\_\_ deodorant!
- \_\_\_\_\_ toothbrush, toothpaste, floss
- \_\_\_\_\_ shampoo and conditioner
- \_\_\_\_\_ facial cleanser
- \_\_\_\_\_ brush, comb
- \_\_\_\_\_ sun block

### **MEDICINE**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Any medicines you take in their original bottles in a plastic baggy labeled with name and class.

### **GLASSES**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Eye glasses, sunglasses and cases

### **OPTIONAL, BUT RECOMMENDED**

- \_\_\_\_\_ A few light, healthy snacks for the bus
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spending money for souvenirs, etc. (max \$40)

## **MS 447 8th Grade Washington, D.C. Trip May 9 - 11, 2018 Itinerary**

### Wednesday May 9, 2018 - Day #1:

7:00 am Students & Chaperones arrive at Pacific Street entrance

7:30 am Buses depart from MS 447 Brooklyn, NY for Washington D. C.

Expected travel time 5.5 hours

*Plus one 30-40 min. Lunch stop (student's expense or bring own lunch)*

1:00 pm - 3:00 Visit the National Zoo

3:30 - 5:30 Visit National Air & Space Museum

5:30 - 6:30 Monuments & Memorials Part One: Vietnam, Lincoln and Korean Memorials

6:45 - 8:30 Dinner at Pentagon City Mall

9:15 Check in to Hotel - Comfort Inn Gateway 45155 Dulles Plaza, Sterling VA

10:00 Overnight Security until 4:00am

### Thursday May 10, 2018 - Day #2:

7:00 am - 8:00 Breakfast at the hotel and departure for city

9:00 - 11:00 Visit the Newseum

11:30 - 1:00 pm Lunch at l'Enfant Plaza

1:00 - 3:00 Visit the National Museum of African American History & Culture

3:00 - 4:00 Monuments & Memorials Part Two: Thomas Jefferson and Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorials

7:00 - 9:30 Orioles Baseball Game

9:30 Depart for hotel

10:00 Overnight security until 4:00am

Friday May 11, 2018 - Day #3:

7:30 am - 9:00 Breakfast at the hotel and departure for city

10:00 - 12:00 pm Holocaust Memorial Museum & Daniel's Story

12:00 - 1:00 Firehouse Sandwich Boxes at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial

1:00 Depart for School approximately 5.5 hours driving time depending on traffic

6:30 Arrival back at MS 447 - 345 Dean Street Brooklyn, NY