



Morristown Beard School
2025 8TH GRADE WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP
April 9 – 11, 2025
Parent Meeting October 24, 2024

Morristown Beard Partnership with Close Up

- Nonprofit, nonpartisan civic education organization founded in 1971.
- Over 1 million student and teacher alumni.
- **Mission:** To inform, inspire, and empower young people to exercise the rights and accept the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy.



Overall Close Up Program Curriculum

Central Question: What can we learn from history to become better citizens today?

Close Up:

- Uses D.C. as a living classroom to explore our democracy.
- Operates on a small-group model (1 program instructor per 20-25 students).
- Encourages students to learn and deliberate with their peers through civil discourse.
- Gets students thinking about important foundational questions like, “What is the proper size and scope of government?”

Trip Details

- **Wednesday April 9th - Friday April 11th**
- 55 8th graders plan to attend
 - This trip is **Mandatory** and is counted towards student History grades.
- Two students per hotel room
 - students will make a list of possibilities and be paired based on their choices
- Eight chaperones
 - Sra. Arroyave
 - Mrs. Casselle
 - Ms. Duggan
 - Mr. Lodato
 - Mrs. McElduff
 - Mrs. Sankar
 - Ms. Tashjian
 - Mr. Tejeda



Wednesday, 4/9

7:30 AM
Depart from school

12:00
Arrival and Registration at Hotel

12:15
Lunch and Orientation

1:00
Opening Workshop

1:45
FDR Memorial

3:00
MLK Memorial

4:15
Jefferson Memorial

5:30
Dinner at a restaurant

7:30
Lincoln, Korean, and Vietnam War Memorials

9:00
Unload Luggage and Check In at Hotel

9:45
Room Check

Thursday, 4/10

8:00
Breakfast

9:00
Current Issues Deliberation

10:15
**Capitol Hill Day:
Meeting
Library of Congress
Lunch in Capitol Visitor Center**

1:30
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

4:00
National Archives

5:15
Pentagon 9/11 Memorial

6:15
Dinner and Bowling at Bowlero

9:00
Bus Transfer to Hotel

9:30
Room Check

Friday, 4/11

8:00
Breakfast

8:45
Load Luggage

9:00
White House and Black Lives Matter Plaza

10:15
National Museum of African American History and Culture

12:15
Lunch in Chinatown (\$15 cash)

1:30
National Mall Museums* (student choice)
American History
Natural History
National Gallery of Art
Air and Space

3:15
Closing Conversation on the National Mall*

3:30
Depart for Home with Boxed Dinners

8:00 **Approximate Arrival** at Morristown-Beard School

Supervision and Security

- 24/7 supervision including a Program Leader, Program Instructors and Night Monitors on each hotel hallway throughout the night (10 PM – 6 AM).
- Program Instructors have 120+ hours of training, certification in CPR/First Aid, criminal background checks, and all staff have been vaccinated against COVID-19.
- Students wear Close Up name tags with an emergency hotline number that is staffed 24/7.
- Partnership with Georgetown Medical Center

Price and What's Included

Total price is **\$1000**, which includes:

- Round-trip coach bus transportation to, from, and around D.C.
- Hotel accommodations (two students per room)
- Three meals per day on full program days
- Academic materials and instruction
- 24-hour supervision, including night monitors
- All admission fees, tips, and gratuities
- Specialized access to Georgetown University Medical Center
- Close Up backpack, water bottle, and guidebook

What's Not Included

- Travel insurance is optional but **STRONGLY** encouraged. Close Up's recommended provider is Travel Guard, but families may choose their own provider.
- Extra spend money for souvenirs



Next Steps

- **November 8th:** \$500 Non-Refundable Deposit - Charged to Student Accounts. This is also the Enrollment Deadline on the Close Up website!
- **February 5th:** Final Payment (remaining balance) - Charged to Student Accounts
- **February 5th:** 100% Cancellation Fee Deadline

*If the cost of the trip represents a financial burden for your family and you have a demonstrated financial need, please reach out to **Sarah Ellerton**, Director of Admission and Financial Aid.*

****All payments are nonrefundable and nontransferable after February 5, 2025.***
Should you request a refund prior, Close Up will refund any amount paid over the \$500 non-refundable deposit.

You will receive an email with a student participant ID and password to enroll your child at CloseUp.org.

Next Steps continued

- Forms (these will distributed in November)
 - Trip release form
 - Behavior contract
 - Health and medical form
 - Medication form
 - Georgetown University Hospital form
- There will be a meeting with 8th graders to discuss the itinerary, packing, and expectations in early Spring.





Questions?
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