

Request for Excused Absence for Students Taking Non-School Educational Tour or Trip with Family or Other Approved Adult Sponsor

Criteria/Guidelines

Regulations of the state of Pennsylvania provide that, upon written request from the parents/guardians of the student involved, a student may be excused from school attendance to participate in an educational tour or trip not sponsored by the school when the trip is evaluated by the superintendent as educational, and if the adult supervision is acceptable to both the superintendent and the student's parents/guardians. The building principal has been designated by the superintendent to make the initial decision, based on the information provided.

In order to provide guidance to parents/guardians, the following procedure for non-school educational trips/tours has been established:

1. This form must be submitted to the principal a minimum of ten (10) school days prior to the trip (except in an emergency). Parents/Guardians will be notified in any case in which the request is denied.
2. Requests will be approved only if it can be determined that the trip/tour is of educational value to the student.
3. If more than one child in a family will be taking the trip/tour, a separate request for each child shall be made to each child's principal if the children attend separate schools.
4. No more than five (5) school days per student will be approved for educational trip/tour requests in any school year. (Special requests with unusual circumstances or exceptional opportunities for learning should be discussed personally with the building principal well in advance of the requested dates for absence.)
5. Unless there are unusual or emergency circumstances, parents/guardians are discouraged from scheduling trips for the first ten (10) school days of the year, during periods of standardized assessments, when a student has accumulated an excessive number of unexcused absences, or when a student is in academic jeopardy. Please consult the district website, school calendar, or contact your building principal for specific assessment dates.
6. All schoolwork missed during the trip/tour must be made up at the initiation of the student immediately upon returning to school. Failure to complete schoolwork will result in a lack of evidence toward learning targets and will negatively impact a student's characteristics of a successful learner/citizenship/employability skills score.
7. Days that are not approved for an educational trip are unexcused and may therefore result in any or all of the following actions:
 1. First legal notice
 2. School Attendance Improvement and Truancy plan
 3. Citation from district court

****Be advised that if the family trip combined with the total number of absences to date exceeds 10 days, you will be required to provide a doctor's note for each subsequent absence. A form must be submitted for each child/sibling going on the trip. Forms should be submitted to the child's building for review by the building principal.**

EDUCATIONAL TRIP REQUEST FORM
PLEASE REVIEW CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES ON THE REVERSE OF
THIS FORM PRIOR TO COMPLETION

Name of Parent or Guardian (print): _____

Name of Student (print): _____ Phone#: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher (Elem Only): _____

Brief description of trip (include location) and the educational value of the trip:

Name and grade of siblings who attend RTSD schools who will also be going on the trip:

Date(s) of trip: _____

Student(s) to be accompanied by Parent or Guardian? Yes No

Student(s) to be accompanied by other adult (in lieu of parent or guardian)? Yes No

If "Yes," what is the adult's name? _____ Phone#: _____

Name of sponsoring organization, if any: _____

Signature

Date

THE STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL WORK MISSED.
A FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FOR EACH CHILD/SIBLING GOING ON THE TRIP.

FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY:

Total Number of School Absences to Date:

Number of Days Absent for Trip: Excused- Unexcused-

Academic Status:

Principal's (or designee) Decision: ____ Approved ____ Not Approved (Parent/Guardian will be contacted if NOT approved)

Principal's (or designee) Signature

Date