

# Sarah G. Banks Middle School

## 8th Grade Trip to Washington, D.C.

### Parent Meeting Information

#### TRIP DATES:

Tuesday, April 21 to Friday, April 24

#### CHAPERONES PER BUS:

- **Bus 1:** Torry Yu (leader), Jennifer VanWagnen, Beatrice Birdsong, Crystal Gillespie, Nancy Krull, Lauren Manney, Kathren O'Brien, Laura Schippa
- **Bus 2:** Meagan Clancy (leader), JoElla Bickel, Tina Chung, Nancy Krull, Bob Meyer
- **Bus 3:** Paula Mather (leader), Denise Becker, Patrick Becker, Teresa Ciriha, Jennifer Dean, Kaysie Stassi
- **Bus 4:** Claire Smith (leader), Sarajane Eppley, Ashley Sand, Laura Shipes, Jeff Snody, Mike Towns
- **Bus 5:** Alex Rickens (leader), Carrie Danforth, John Danforth, Erika Nelson, Kelly Sharpe, Amy Yee

#### WHAT TO PACK?:

- **Large Luggage (won't have access to until we get to the hotel on TUESDAY NIGHT):** pajamas, 4 pairs of pants, 4 pair of underwear, 4 pair of socks, bathroom items (shampoo, soap, wash cloth, toothbrush, toothpaste, brush, etc.) 3 D.C. T-Shirts (navy blue, red, gray), long sleeve shirts to wear under t-shirt in case it is cold, deodorant
- **Carry-On Luggage (accessible during the bus ride to DC):** rain coat/coat, poncho/umbrella, hoodie, snacks, wallet, money, cell phone + charger, headphones, light blanket/pillow, comfortable shoes
- Students are responsible for their belongings. Banks MS is not responsible for damaged, lost, or stolen items.

#### T-SHIRTS:

Students will be provided a t-shirt for each day of the trip. The expectation is that students will have their shirts on at all times for safety reasons.

- **Tuesday:** Orange Bulldogs (please come to school on Tuesday AM with this on)
- **Wednesday:** Red - Patriotic Bulldog (we will be wearing this for our panoramic photo)
- **Thursday:** Gray DC Landmarks
- **Friday:** Navy Blue "Beautiful Day to be a Banks Bulldog"

TUESDAY, APRIL 21 (arrival procedures in the AM) - please arrive between 4:00am-4:30am

- Students should report to the East Gym Entrance to check-in at their bus specific table – Bus 1, 2, 3

- Parents should drop off medications in a zip lock bag at their bus table – chaperones will check it in to be put in the medication bag.
- Luggage tags and emergency name lanyards will be handed to your student
- Students will **NOT** be allowed to board the bus until chaperones have boarded and snacks have been loaded.

## MEALS

- All meals are included in the trip cost, with the exception of breakfast on day 1. Please plan to have your student eat before arriving AND/OR bringing it on the bus. We will stop for lunch en route to Gettysburg.
- There will be water & snacks available on the bus and students are welcome to pack additional snacks. Students **WILL NOT** be able to purchase food or drinks from rest stops.
- The itinerary lists the places we will be eating at to plan out dining options ahead of time.
- We will **NOT** accept DoorDash or any other food delivery orders.

## PHOTOS

- Included in the trip cost, all students will receive a copy of the panoramic photo we take in front of the Capitol. This should arrive a couple weeks after we return.
- During the trip, we encourage families to check out all of the DC photos that students and chaperones take.

## MEDICATION

- Every bus will have a backpack that student medication will be stored in and carried by a chaperone to be dispensed as prescribed or as needed.
- ALL medication - prescribed and over-the-counter - must have a **medication authorization form** accompanied if being provided by the family that is signed by a doctor. **These forms are due on March 24.** Medication can be dropped off beginning Monday, April 13 through the morning we depart.
- The **over-the-counter emergency medication** form in the event a student needs medication during the trip (i.e. Tylenol, Benadryl, Tums, Motrin, Dramamine). We will call home to get authorization before dispensing.

## ON THE BUS

- Girls will be seated at the front and the boys in the back (or vice versa)
- Wi-Fi is available, but can be spotty. We also expect to have charging outlets on the bus, but are not yet sure if it is at every seat, or sporadically.
- We will stop every couple of hours at the rest stop to stretch and to use the restroom. A bathroom is also available on the bus to be used in emergency situations.
- Electronic devices are allowed, but there are times we will ask that students have them turned off.

## SAFETY & SECURITY

- Buddy system! Students must always be with their buddy and their groups during the trip.

- Hotel security guards will be stationed on each floor of the hotel and doing walk-throughs overnight.
- Chaperones will be doing room checks prior to curfew each night.
- Students will have their chaperone's phone number & families will have bus leader's phone numbers.
- ALL students will have designated shirts on each day, along with an Academic Expeditions name badge to wear.

## STUDENT BEHAVIOR

- Consequences for misbehavior include the loss of privileges, remaining on the bus with a chaperone, phone call home, parent pick-up from Washington, D.C., and/or additional consequences upon returning to school.
- All students are expected to demonstrate our Banks behavior expectations at all times.

## RETURN HOME: FRIDAY, APRIL 24

- We are tentatively planning to return around 10:30pm on Friday, April 24. Students will be instructed to call home when we are about 30-45 minutes away from Banks.
- Please park in the east/gymnasium parking lot to pick up your child.

## BUS LEADER CONTACT INFO:

- Bus 1: Mr. Torry Yu - [torryyu@wlcsd.org](mailto:torryyu@wlcsd.org)
- Bus 2: Ms. Meagan Clancy - [meaganclancy@wlcsd.org](mailto:meaganclancy@wlcsd.org)
- Bus 3: Mrs. Paula Mather - [paulamather@icloud.com](mailto:paulamather@icloud.com)
- Bus 4: Ms. Claire Smith - [clairesmith@wlcsd.org](mailto:clairesmith@wlcsd.org)
- Bus 5: Mr. Alex Rickens - [alexrickens@wlcsd.org](mailto:alexrickens@wlcsd.org)

**If you have any questions about the trip, please contact Mr. Yu at [TorryYu@wlcsd.org](mailto:TorryYu@wlcsd.org).**

**WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING A GREAT TIME EXPLORING OUR NATION'S CAPITAL!**