

February 27, 2017

Dear Parents of Music Trip Participants!

I can't believe we are just 7 weeks away from leaving for our first ever combined band/choir trip! Ms. Kochan and I are so excited for the activities we have planned for the students. You will see we have varied experiences throughout the week including doing a performance master class with 2 faculty members at Vanderbilt University. Master classes are educationally rich on so many levels, but especially from the aspect of being able to learn from experts in the field that are not geographically close to us. New perspectives (or reinforcement of concepts we are already working on) can be truly enlightening for the students. **If you have any questions or concerns regarding this aspect of the trip, please contact me directly and I will be happy to clarify anything for you.**

Included in this packet are the following forms –

Permission to travel form – please fill out/sign/return. Notarizing is suggested, but not required.

Medical consent form – please fill out/sign/return. Do NOT fill out the medication portion. We already have that info if you turned in the med forms the school provided.

Tour Guidelines/Helpful Hints from the tour company – this is for your information.

Additional information from Mrs. P and Ms. Kochan –

I have a ZERO TOLERANCE policy for any illegal activity on this trip – alcohol, drugs, etc. If a situation arises, please be aware that you will be sent home IMMEDIATELY at your parents' expense.

I am not allowing gaming systems of any kind on this trip. You may bring iPods, cell phones, tablets, or laptops (if necessary for school work). Part of the fun of trips like this is spending time with your peers. Bring a deck of cards or a small board game for time on the bus or at night in the hotel.

Please be respectful at all times of people around you – chaperones, other students, our company representative, bus drivers, etc. You are representing Chilton High School, your parents and yourselves! Be mindful of that!

Be on time for everything! (And by on time, I mean 5 minutes early...)

Do not go off alone at any time during the trip. Be sure to always be in groups of at least 2 or 3.

Be mindful of your personal spending money. You need to make sure you have what you need for all 6 days of the trip. You also need to keep track of your personal items so nothing gets lost or stolen.

Pack appropriately. You will be allowed 1 suitcase for under the bus and 1 carry-on bag to keep with you. Look at the activities we have each day and dress comfortably for the day. You will not be changing clothes during the day with the exception of our Tybee Island Beach 5afternoon. So, be prepared to wear the same outfit all day. Check the weather before we go – make sure you have a light jacket and layers so you are dressed for the weather as necessary. Do be sure to bring a swimsuit for evenings when we do have pool time scheduled at the hotel and for the beach.

Once we do room check/lights out, it is expected that you stay in your rooms and go to sleep! Our days are very busy with activities and to full enjoy this experience – you need to get rest! Also, be sure to eat breakfast at the hotel in the mornings. Hungry and tired do not mix! 😊

On Monday 4/17, before you board the buses, all students will have their bags checked by a chaperone. **I will also ask you to check in your medication with me that morning. It should be in a gallon size Ziploc bag labeled with your name. All medication must be in the original containers.** I will keep the medication in my possession (or with another chaperone on the other bus when appropriate) for the entire trip. Each time you take a medication, state law requires that an adult administers the medicine and logs it on a sheet. This is for your safety! All school staff has been trained on this process and at least 4 of our chaperones are school staff! **If you have not turned in your medication forms, please do so ASAP – the final due date is March 31.**

Final payment for the trip was due January 31. If you still owe, I ask you to take care of that as soon as possible. If you are unsure of what you owe, please feel free to have your child send me a message on Schoology and I will let you know what the total is. Thanks for your prompt attention to this.

I appreciate your close reading of all of this information. I know it can be a lot...but when travelling with 145 people (123 of which are students), I can't leave much to chance. We will be available at the band and choir concerts at the end of March for a brief parent meeting/time for questions. Please plan to stay after for about 15 minutes to take care of any last minute issues.

Thanks!

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