

# Deerfield Community School District

Excellence and Equity in Education



September 9, 2015

To **ALL** DHS Students and Parents,

Welcome back to a brand new school year! We would like to announce that this year's DHS Cross-Curricular trip will be to Washington, D.C. and Baltimore and will take place from March 15<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>. This trip is open to any DHS student. The trip planning committee would like to invite your child to participate in this *amazing* opportunity to visit our Nation's Capitol! The history, culture, and performance opportunities will make this a fantastic trip.

The School Board approved this trip at its May meeting. We are currently working on finalizing the itinerary, but for planning purposes, we are looking at a total cost of approximately \$750.00 per person, depending on the total number of travelers. This includes *all* transportation, lodging, tickets, fees, private nighttime security at the hotel, and two meals a day while we are in DC. Students will be responsible for one meal (lunch) out of pocket on the days we are in DC/Maryland as well as all meals while we are traveling. Total cost does not cover any souvenirs or snacks. The estimated price could change depending on how many students participate in this trip. There is also an opportunity for you to purchase trip insurance at an additional cost (see enclosed). A copy of the preliminary itinerary is also enclosed. This *will* change but it will give you an idea of some of the main things we will be doing while in our Nation's Capitol.

Sites we plan to visit and trip highlights include:

- \* Performances by DHS Band and Choirs
- \* Smithsonian Museums / U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
- \* Performance of Shear Madness / United States Capitol / Group Photo / Union Station
- \* Great Falls Park / Arlington National Cemetery / Private Tram / Wreath Laying Ceremony
- \* Baltimore Inner Harbor / Harborplace / National Aquarium

As in the past, we will allow students/families the opportunity to pay for this trip in payments throughout the course of the year OR you can choose to pay for the trip in full. Due to School Board policy, all travelers must be paid in full BEFORE the trip departure date. Below is the payment schedule that we would like to suggest:

October 2 - \$175 **required non-refundable** deposit  
November 6 - \$150  
December 4 - \$150

January 8 - \$100  
February 5 – Remainder  
*All checks should be made out to "Deerfield Schools"*

Please return the enclosed form with your trip deposit and let us know if you will be paying in full or choose to do the payment schedule by checking the appropriate line on the return form with your deposit. You will also find a space to make a note if you would like to pay on a different schedule. We will do our very best to accommodate you with payments and keep you updated on your child's account balance. Please note if you are paying in full the \$175.00 deposit remains due on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. We promise to have a confirmed cost as soon as possible for those of you that would like to take care of this expense in a timely manner. ALL trips must be paid in full by February 5<sup>th</sup>.

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Music students are welcome to use money already in their band/choir accounts to pay for some or all of their trips. If/when you would like to use money out of a music account, please send Mr. Petersen or Mrs. Lange something in writing or shoot us an email.

New for this trip: you will have the option to pay for all/part of the trip with a credit card through the school's E-Funds Payment site. This is the same link that you may use to pay for lunch or other school fees. Simply select "HS Washington DC Trip" when you pay (there is an extra surcharge for this service).

We will be offering fundraisers during the course of the year to help students raise money. This September we are doing our annual catalog (wrapping paper, chocolate, gifts, etc) and Bucky Book sale; in October we are planning a Cheesecake and Butter Braid sale; in January we are planning a cookie dough sale. All money raised in these sales will go directly in your student's trip account.

The School Board also requires all students participating in overnight out-of-state trips to sign and follow the Deerfield Co-Curricular Code. Enclosed is a Conduct Agreement that will have to be signed as well. This is even more "strict" than the Co-Curricular Code. Students who break the Co-Curricular Code and/or the Conduct Agreement will not be allowed to go on the trip and will forfeit all money that is non-refundable (which could be the entire cost of the trip pending on date of infraction). The final commitment date is December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015. After this date, all students who are participating in the trip are fully responsible for the complete cost. Students must also remain academically eligible during the entire third quarter. We will not take students on extended field trips if they are not passing their classes. Students will be responsible for all missed work while we travel.

**If you are interested in participating in this trip, please return the Conduct Agreement, the Sign-Up and Payment Sheet and the \$175 deposit (and trip insurance form) to any of the participating teachers by *Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>*.**

We are also looking for parent chaperones for this trip. We have traditionally had a great set of parents help us out on past trips and our chaperones play a vital role in the success of the trip. We will send more information out about this when we know the number of students traveling.

We are excited to provide this opportunity for all of our High School Students. Washington, D.C. is a beautiful, culturally rich city that is sure to offer our students many amazing and memorable experiences. Thank you for your continued support in making DHS a school that offers our students a vast amount of opportunities!

Sincerely,

Ryan Petersen, Amanda Lange, Deb Kohlwey, Karen Frey and Meg Kaster

**CHECK OUT THE TRIP WEBPAGE FOR INFORMATION AND FORMS – GO TO [WWW.DEERFIELD.K12.WI.US](http://WWW.DEERFIELD.K12.WI.US), SELECT “HIGH: 9-12” THEN CLICK ON “WASHINGTON DC TRIP” ON THE LEFT.**