

October 20, 2020

Dear 8th Grade Parents and Guardians,

This past Thursday, I presented information about the 8th grade trip to Washington D.C. in June of 2020..

The tour company that we are using is EF Tours. I have attached the EF Tours PowerPoint that was presented on Thursday, as well as the EF Tours flyer. Below is information for EF Tours on how to enroll in the trip.

Enrollment for the trip begins now through November 22nd.

We will be also be convening a meeting of the 8th grade students so that they can hear more about the trip and help determine their level of interest. The enrollment for the trip is done online through EF Tours by following the link on the attached flyer. (If you need to enroll by paper, please email me directly)

<https://www.efexploreamerica.com/tour-website/2278388JR>

We strongly encourage every 8th grader to attend the trip and will work with you to make it accessible for everyone who wants to attend. Last year over 220 8th grade students attended. That said, overnight travel is not for everyone, and as such there will be "staycation" day field trips and community events offered to students who do not attend the Washington D.C. Trip. More information on that will follow in the months to come.

Here is an overview of the Washington D.C. trip, but please also refer to the attached PowerPoint and flyer from EF Tours:

Dates: The trip is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 9th through Friday, June 12, 2020. It is four days and three nights.

Supervision: Students will be chaperoned by Day Faculty at a 1:10 faculty to student ratio.

Medical Care: A nurse will also be attending the trip to address any student need for medications or ongoing medical needs.

Itinerary: The trip itinerary is included in the PowerPoint and includes a culminating cruise of the Potomac River.

Lodging: Students will be staying overnight in a local DC area hotel which will be determined once we know the final enrollment numbers. There will be 4 students to a room, with 2 students sharing a bed. Students will be allowed input into roommate selections, and parents will be informed of final roommate decisions. Roommate forms will go home in late February.

Transportation: Transportation to Washington D.C. will be by coach bus using companies approved by the NPS Transportation Department.

Cost: The cost of the trip is \$795, which includes everything except for lunches and spending money. Breakfast and dinners are provided. Through the generosity of the PTO, we are able to offer financial assistance to any families who need financial support in accessing this trip.

Families in need of financial assistance should contact me or one of the 8th grade guidance counselors, Ms. Fiske or Ms. Bernier at the emails below:

fiskej@newton.k12.ma.us

bernierb@newton.k12.ma.us

As the attached information indicates, payments can be spread out over 10 months or paid in full. There is also a link provided to families for fundraising or “gifting”.

Enrollment: Enrollment is done online by following the link provided on the message from EF Tours below. Enrollment is currently open, and will remain open until November 22nd. The trip is pending approval by the School Committee, which we anticipate at an October meeting. If for some unforeseen reason the trip does not receive approval, all deposits or payments will be fully refunded by EF Tours. Once the trip is approved, please see information provided by EF Tours about their various options for travel insurance.

As we will inform the students, this trip is a privilege and is contingent upon a student’s ability to exhibit safe student behaviors throughout the school year.

If you have any concerns about your child’s ability to access this trip, please reach out to me. I will work closely with EF Tours on making this trip accessible to any child who would like to attend.

Sincerely,

Jackie Mann

Principal

F.A. Day

Jacqueline_mann@newton.k12.ma.us

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION FROM EF TOURS

Hello Day MS 8th Grade Families!

Thank you to those who joined our meeting Thursday night. F A Day Middle School, in partnership with EF Explore America, is excited to offer educational travel at the middle school level and we are thrilled to be going to Washington, D.C. in June 2020. This trip is currently open to students who are currently 8th graders. We'd love it if your child joined us for this fun, eye-opening and educational experience. For those who were not able to make it to the meeting, an enrollment flyer is attached to this email and is also available in the front office of the school for your child to take home. The fall enrollment window is now open through November 22nd. This deadline will help us get a sense of who is committed and interested in the trip, as spots are limited on the busses.

Here's a summary of the trip and how to enroll. To learn more about the trip and sign up, visit our tour website at www.efexploreamerica.com/enroll and enter our tour number: **2278388JR**

Tour Information

Tour name: Washington, D.C.: The Capital Tour

Tour ID: **2278388JR**

Payment needed to reserve spot: \$95

Deadline to enroll: November 22, 2019

Total Cost of the Trip: \$795

Approximate student monthly payment by enrolling today, depending on chosen withdrawal date: \$100/month

There are 2 different ways to enroll your child on this trip:

1. Online at

<https://www.efexploreamerica.com/tour-website/2278388JR>

2. By calling 888-333-9756

We sincerely hope that your child will be able to participate in this opportunity. We are excited to share with them this educational travel experience. Thank you for enrolling now and helping with our planning process. We appreciate this investment into your child's education and we look forward to a great trip.

For more information, please see the attached presentation and flyer below:

[8th Grade Trip to DC 2020.pdf](#)

[Washington DC Power Point 2020.pptx](#)