

Zionsville Community Schools

Board of School Trustees Meeting “Item for Consideration”

Consent Agenda • Date: June 9, 2025

Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trip ZMS 8th Grade Art Trip to Chicago

Category:

<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources, Personnel/Staffing	<input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance, Budgeting, Accounting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Facilities, Transportation, Nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Relations
	<input type="checkbox"/> Board Policy
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Type of Board of Trustees Consideration Sought:

Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report	<input type="checkbox"/>

Facts of this Matter:

1. April 10th & 11th, 2026
2. ZMS students in 8th grade yearlong art
3. ZMS students in 8th grade yearlong art will travel, with Educational Destinations (aka Music Travel Consultants), to Chicago in April 2026. Our time will be spent in small groups led by chaperones/tour director/staff members. The focus of our trip is on the art & architecture of Chicago. The activities include The Art Institute of Chicago, architectural boat tour, Frank Lloyd Wright home & studio, Blue Man group, John Hancock Tower & TILT, Museum of Science & Industry, Millennium Park, and Navy Pier.
4. Craig Callahan, ZMS Assistant Principal, has reviewed and approved this itinerary.

Transportation	Coach buses
Parent Permission Obtained	For interested families, parents register their child online giving them permission to travel.
Cost to Students/Families	The approximate cost for students is \$644 (price decreases as more travelers enroll). For any parent chaperone the cost is \$675-\$875 (depending on room occupancy). Students will have the opportunity to participate in a fundraiser, such as selling tumblers from American Enterprises. We have worked with this company for almost a decade and the fundraiser is entirely online. The products are bought, sold, and shipped without the student going door to door. For each tumbler sold, the student will profit \$14. The cost for each tumbler is \$30.

About Supervision	We follow the ZCS background check and chaperone procedures. The goal is to have 1 chaperone for every 6-8 students. There will also be 3-4 ZMS staff members in attendance, one for each bus. The buses will be assigned by chaperone groups and will include a mix of boys and girls. Hotel rooms will be assigned and curfew enforced.
Trip Insurance Plan and Refund Procedure	We will recommend participating families purchase travel insurance through the tour company in case of sickness or injury. Families will receive a full reimbursement, minus the \$45 deposit, if they purchase insurance. If insurance is not purchased, families will lose their deposit and balance after 60 days prior to departure.
Any Additional Information	If approved, this will be our 8 th year traveling with the yearlong art students. There will be assigned hotel rooms and assigned chaperone groups throughout the trip to keep students safe.

Objective POSITIVES related to this item or approach:

The purpose of this trip is to expose students to experiences outside of the classroom. Students will be able to make connections to what they've learned in the classroom by observing and discussing the art & architecture around them. My hope is to encourage a greater understanding of the diversity found in art & architecture from around the world.

Objective NEGATIVES related to this item or approach:

The price and proximity of the location may deter some students from traveling.

Financial Implications, if any:

The cost per student is estimated by the number of enrolled travelers. In 2025 the cost per student was \$644. The cost includes all activities, breakfast/dinner, charter bus, hotel accommodations, and 24-hour access to a tour director. Lunch at Navy Pier will be at the traveler's expense.