

Waunakee Middle School Social Studies Department
Jason LaFlash jasonlaflash@waunakee.k12.wi.us

Educational Goals/Objectives

1. To connect the curriculum of 7th and 8th grade history and government to the real world.
2. To broaden cultural and historical perspectives of our students.
3. To foster camaraderie, pride and a sense of family/team within our students.
4. To provide an opportunity to hear and learn from hands-on activities and experiences in the places in which we are learning about.
5. To provide an opportunity to represent the school and community as positive members of a society.

Student Needs

1. To provide a learning and travel opportunity for all 8th grade students despite financial obligations.
2. To provide a reward for good behavior to students through both the 7th and 8th grade years.

Places To Visit

We will spend 1 day in Philadelphia, 2 days in Washington D.C. and 2 days in Boston, and 1.5 days in New York City.

Travel Dates

Leave Thursday, June 12th, 2026 Approx 2:00 am –Arrive home Friday, June 19 Approx 12:30 am at the Middle School. Bus from MS to Chicago Midway/Milwaukee Airport and return included.

Participants

91 students on 1 flight and then 2 coach buses

9 Teacher chaperones: Jason LaFlash, Shad Fanta, Alissa Walter, Hailey Bond, Michelle Kadow, Alex Kartz, Beth Stachour, Christen Potoff, Megan Girod

1 Adult Interpreter-Kathleen Damon

Trip Itinerary (See attached detailed itinerary):

1. 7 days /6 night tour via air/motor coach round trip from Waunakee, WI to our places of visit.
2. Tour stops/visits to be taken that allow for cultural enrichment: ie museums, monuments, and connect to our curriculum.
3. All meals at appropriate restaurants provided by the vendor as part of the package.
4. Local tour guides.
5. Liability Insurance Coverage for the tour and motorcoaches.
6. Night time security coverage

Itinerary Highlights:

Philadelphia: Valley Forge, Christ Church and Burial Ground, Independence Hall, Liberty Bell and Presidents House, Elfreth's Alley, Carpenters Hall, 250th Anniversary Exhibits.

Washington DC: Smithsonian Museums-American History, Natural History, African American, and Holocaust. Arlington National Cemetery, National Archives, Ford's Theater, White House (picture stop), Vietnam Memorial, Korean Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, MLK Jr. Memorial, WW2 Memorial, U.S. Capital Tour pending

VA-Mt. Vernon Tour

New York City-Times Square, Broadway Show, Financial District, 9/11 Memorial, Trinity Church, Federal Hall, Staten Island Ferry and Statue of Liberty, The Edge, Highline, and Central Park.

Boston-Freedom Trail, U.S.S Constitution, Old North Church, Bunker Hill Monument, Old Salem, Harvard Yard, Plymouth Plantation and the Mayflower, Old South Meeting House, Boston Tea Party Ships and Museum, Lexington and Concord.

Meals: Meals on the way there and back will be at the airport food court.

The rest will be restaurants or food courts set up by our tour company. Some of the restaurants are: Hard Rock Cafe, Pentagon Mall Food Court, Mt. Vernon Restaurant, Reading Central Market, Faneuil Hall, and a Washington DC Food Truck Experience.

Hotels: DC-Holiday Inn Downtown-2 nights, Boston-: Holiday Inn Express Quincy-2 nights, New Jersey-Hilton Hasbrouck Heights 2 nights.

Costs

To be paid by families and concessions sales at M.S. events (April track meet) and a fundraiser at Lone Girl in May. Students can also apply for a scholarship through the travel company, EF Tours.

\$2699 per person for quad occupancy (Early Signup Pricing). It includes all travel, fees, food, transportation, gratuities, and entrance fees.

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