



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 5/16/2017 **Superintendent:** Dave Valenzuela

Administrator/Staff: Darrell Erb/Michelle Stone

Type of Item: Informational Action

Please state your proposal briefly and clearly. What do you want the board to know, discuss, or decide?

Please approve out of state travel for our annual 8th grade trip at Applegate School. Students will enjoy themselves participating in fun places such as Discovery Kingdom - a science-oriented theme park attended by students all over the Northern California region, where students will be able to learn about what the park is doing to ensure survival of various species of animals from all over the world. Students will also go to "Omescape", in Richmond, where they will put their skills in logic, investigation and teamwork to the test in attempts to escape from one room to another using clues. The trip begins Friday, June 9, and ends upon return back to our school June 10th.

Provide history/background information on your proposal:

Applegate has had an 8th grade trip tradition for many year, but last year parents wanted to "step it up" with an out of state trip to Vallejo, California, where students enjoyed a trip to Discovery Kingdom, as well as to Sacramento's Raging Waters park. The trip was a one night stay, as is this request, and was a great success. Our students represented our school and district with good manners and good behavior, and this year's 8th grade class promises to do the same.

List the advantages of your proposal:

This tradition is good for our school. It provides an incentive for kids to stay at Applegate School. It provides an opportunity for parents to get involved in our school, much in the way parents get involved with Safe and Sober celebrations for seniors in high school. Thanks to the coordination of Michelle Stone, and to the efforts of our 8th grade parents and students, this trip is covered by funds raised. Our 8th grade students are, as a group, well behaved and their accomplishments as they transition into high school deserve recognition in this way, and that is why we support it.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

Beyond the risk inherent to travel, there are no disadvantages. We will have at minimum one chaperone per hotel room, and the trip itinerary is tightly structured, and expectations are made clear. Michelle Stone, our lead teacher in middle school, will attend the trip.

List possible alternatives that could also offer a solution to your proposal. Why were they not recommended?

In the past we have done the jet boats - but many of our students have done this, and such a trip just does not have the pizzazz this trip has for students. We want this trip to be a reason for students to attend and stay at Applegate.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes No