

DUNLAP COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #323
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
AUGUST 19, 2026

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

TO: Dr. Scott Dearman, Superintendent
Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Eric Stone, Head Baseball Coach
Dunlap High School

SUBJECT: Approval of out-of-state trip to Millington, TN for Varsity Baseball student athletes

PROPOSED ACTION:

That the Board of Education approve an out-of-state trip to the USA Challenge at the USA Stadium Complex in Millington, TN for Varsity Baseball student-athletes for March 29th through April 1st, 2027.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In alignment with the District's Mission, to empower all students to reach their individual potential, the DHS baseball coaching staff recommend that DHS Varsity Baseball student-athletes have the opportunity to compete in a national baseball tournament.

The USA Challenge is scheduled for March 30th through April 1st, 2027 with a travel day to start the trip on March 29th and players being released to their families after the last game on April 1st* (4 days/3 nights). There will be no cost to players for the trip as costs are being covered jointly by the DHS Baseball Activity account and the athletic department in addition to District transportation being secured by Mr. Holmes. This includes all meals, transportation, accommodations, practice time, all tournament games, and gratuities. Opportunities such as these have proven to align with the District values and beliefs to grow our student-athletes in the areas of Accountability, Diversity, Excellence, Health and Well-Being, Honesty, Individual Growth, Integrity, Open Communication, Respect, Safety, Teamwork, and Trust. Aside from the lifelong memories that will be created on a trip of this nature, our team will be able to grow closer as a baseball family and build a greater sense of teamwork and togetherness that will serve us well not only during the season but in the years that follow. Other local high schools such as Morton, Canton, Normal West, and Metamora have taken their teams on similar trips and have stated how invaluable the opportunity has been to all those involved. A trip to a tournament such as this also allows the DHS baseball program to give their student-athletes enhanced scheduling opportunities.

*Athletes are welcome to return home using the District provided transportation if needed.