



Date: July 9, 2026

To: Dr. Jon Graff
Saint Peter School Board

From: Jana Sykora
South Elementary Principal

Re: South Elementary 2026–2027 Field Trip Plan

The purpose of this memo is to provide the School Board with an overview of the planned field trip experiences for South Elementary students during the 2026–2027 school year. These experiences extend classroom learning through hands-on opportunities that support curriculum, student engagement, and social-emotional development.

The current South Elementary field trip plan includes:

Kindergarten

- **Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota (Spring):** Students explore interactive science exhibits, learn through play, and experience their first out-of-town field trip while building curiosity and confidence.
- **Saint Peter Fire Station (Spring):** Students learn about fire safety, tour a fire truck, meet local firefighters, and gain an appreciation for the role of first responders.

First Grade

- **Ferguson’s Fall Harvest (Fall):** Students investigate plant life cycles, agriculture, and how farms provide food and other resources through hands-on science experiences.
- **Ney Nature Center (Winter):** Students may explore seasonal changes, animal adaptations, and living things through outdoor learning. Future participation will depend on adjustments to better enhance our science curriculum, as portions of the 2026 repeated experiential learning activities are already integrated into our curriculum.
- **Saint Peter Public Library (Spring):** Students meet library staff, learn about the upcoming summer reading program and become familiar with library resources that support reading beyond the school year.

To ensure equitable access, Parent Council activity funds are available to assist families so all South Elementary students have the opportunity to participate regardless of financial circumstances. Additional instructional experiences that occur within the City of Saint Peter or are within walking distance of South Elementary are not included in this summary.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the 2026–2027 South Elementary field trip plan.