

2014 Becker High School Band Trip Proposal

The Becker High School Band, under the direction of Jessica Gilbertson, is seeking permission to travel to Memphis and New Orleans the first week of summer on its bi-annual trip. The trip dates have been pushed back from the traditional Spring Break travel due to Mrs. Gilbertson's scheduled maternity leave.

Trip Purposes:

The purpose of the trip is multi-dimensional in nature and include but are not limited to:

- Performing and learning in a master class at the University of Memphis conducted by a collegiate band instructor.
- Listening and evaluating true New Orleans' jazz music at Preservation Hall.
- Experiencing history at the Civil Right's Museum and Graceland.
- Learning and experiencing culture during guided walking tour of New Orleans.
- Team building within the band program.
 - Statistics show that students who feel valued, involved, and respected are more successful in school and traveling on a band trip creates that type of a bond with the members.
- Educational opportunities outside of the classroom that will enhance learning in band, as well as, other subjects in school.
 - The responsibilities of traveling help prepare students in small steps for life outside of high school.
- Continued building of a strong, vital band program at Becker High School.
 - Traveling helps recruit and retain members and increases commitment in the band program.

Destination:

The destinations are Memphis and New Orleans. The students will be traveling in motor coaches. The following is the proposed itinerary. Students will miss zero school days with the proposed dates and minimal graduation parties. Also, all meals that are included in the price are marked with an asterisk. (*)

June 8 Sunday

2:00pm Load Buses
2:30pm Depart School.

June 9 Monday

7:00am Arrive in Memphis. Breakfast stop.
7:30am Depart for University of Memphis
8:00am Clinic at University of Memphis
10:00am Depart for Graceland
10:30am Graceland Tour
12:30pm Depart for Lunch – on your own.
1:30pm Depart for Civil Rights Museum tour
4:30pm Depart for Beale Street
5:00pm Dinner buffet at BB King's Blues Café*
--- Free time - souvenir shopping
8:30pm Depart for hotel

9:00pm Arrive at hotel #1.
June 10 Tuesday
 6:00am Breakfast at hotel*
 6:30am Load up bus and check out of hotel.
 6:45am Depart for New Orleans. Lunch en route – \$5 included
 2:30pm New Orleans walking/orientation tour, including the Flea Market.
 4:00pm Depart for performance at Trinity Church (5:00pm)
 6:30pm Depart for dinner at Bubba Gump’s New Orleans*
 8:00pm Depart for hotel #2
June 11 Wednesday
 8:00am Breakfast at hotel #2*
 8:45am Depart for Oak Alley Plantation
 9:45am Arrive Plantation. Group Photo Opportunity (self-arranged).
 Plantation Tour (first group at 10:10 am).
 11:45am Depart for Swamp tour – lunch en route.
 2:00pm Jean LaFitte Swamp Tour
 4:00pm Depart for New Orleans
 4:50pm Meet at Jackson Square Steps (Group 1 -- approx 78 people). Depart for
 Preservation Hall (5:15 show).
 6:05pm Meet at Jackson Square Steps (Group 2 – remaining people). Depart for
 Preservation Hall (6:30 show).
 Preservation Hall—original New Orleans Style Jazz.
 7:45pm Meet at Jackson Square steps. Stroll to Café du Monde for Beignets and Cocoa (a
 New Orleans Tradition).
 9:00pm Depart for hotel #2
June 12 Thursday
 7:00am Breakfast at hotel #2*
 7:45am Check out and load buses
 8:00am Depart for New Orleans
 9:00am Mardi Gras World
 10:30am Depart for Jackson Square Steps. New Orleans City Tour including: St. Charles,
 Garden District, New Orleans Cemetery, Katrina Recovery, French Quarter, St. Louis
 Cathedral, French Quarter Farmer’s market.
 12:30pm Depart for Jackson Square Lunch (\$5 included).
 1:00pm Free time/impromptu jazz music in French Quarter/Market Place.
 6:15pm Meet/Board Steamboat Natchez (Toulouse Wharf) – Jazz Cruise with Dukes of
 Dixieland.
 9:30pm Depart for home
June 13 Friday
 --- Travel day.
 8:30pm Arrive Home.

Housing and Chaperones:

Students, director, and all chaperones will be staying in two different hotels over the course of the trip due to two different destination cities. Monday, June 9th will be at hotel #1 near Memphis and the following two nights we will be staying at hotel #2 near New Orleans.

Hotel #1 Information:

La Quinta Inns & Suites
721 South West Drive
Horn Lake, MS 38637

Amenities & Services:

- Free Bright Side Breakfast™
- Free Wireless High-Speed Internet Access
- Free Local Calls
- Free Parking
- Meeting Facilities Available
- Business Center
- Guest Laundry Facilities
- Indoor Swimming Pool
- Spa
- Fitness Center
- Free Bright Side Breakfast®
 - Waffles
 - Hot and cold cereal
 - Bread and muffins
 - Fresh fruit
 - All-you-can-drink coffee and juice

Hotel #2 Information:

La Quinta Inn & Suites
2610 Williams Blvd
Kenner, LA 70062

Hotel Overview:

Offering an extended continental breakfast and airport shuttle service, this New Orleans hotel is just 12 miles from the French Quarter district. Guest rooms at La Quinta Inn and Suites New Orleans Airport have a flat-screen TV with cable channels. Free Wi-Fi access, a desk and coffee machine are provided for a productive work station in each room. Guests of New Orleans Airport La Quinta can enjoy exercising in the on-site fitness centre or swimming in the outdoor pool.

Students will be staying in rooms grouped into 4's by the director. The chaperone ratio will be 10:1 so the number of chaperones will be determined by the amount of participating students.

Probable Number of Students:

The trip is optional so the number of students has yet to be determined. In 2010, 70% of band members traveled to San Antonio. Using that percentage, approximately 100 students will opt to participate.

Transportation:

Motor Coach Busses will transport the students at all times.

Travel Company and Cost:

The cost of the trip will be approximately \$725 per student and the total trip cost will vary based on amount of students. The exact total cost of the trip cannot be calculated without having the exact number of students participating. The number of students participating will determine the cost. Chaperones will pay half of the trip cost. The travel company handling the arrangements is Leisure Time Tours from St. Cloud, MN. The company has been handling the Becker Music department tours for over 20 years.

Fundraising:

Music department students have been fundraising since 6th grade and the Band Boosters have been managing the student's accounts. Any money they have accumulated can be applied to the cost of the trip. Students will also be able to participate in this year's fundraisers.

General Rules and Regulations

Any student not complying with the guidelines set below should expect disciplinary action. Discipline may range from a simple reprimand, room or bus confinement, to being sent home by airplane or bus at the expense of parents/guardians.

- 1. All Minnesota State High School League and Becker High School Handbook Rules and Expectations apply on this trip. The police department, as well as Becker High School, will handle any student involvement in alcohol, drugs, or tobacco. Any involvement in these substances will result in the student being sent home with a chaperone. Parents will pay for the cost of the plane/bus ride for the student and chaperone.**
2. Act in a manner that will leave every person in which we have contact with a good impression. We are representing our school, community, and state on this trip.
3. All students will attend every function and tour on the itinerary.
4. You should be with at least two other students at all times. DO NOT go anywhere by yourself.
5. Always be a few minutes early. If you are late, the whole group is late. This may jeopardize our scheduled events.
6. Be courteous to the chaperones and drivers

Motor Coach Conduct

1. Food and drink may be consumed while traveling, as long as the coach is kept clean and neat.
2. Our motor coach drivers are experts in the field. Please treat the drivers with courtesy and respect, keeping in mind their responsibilities. While he or she is driving, keep the noise level low.
3. When quiet time is designated during sleeping hours on the bus, you must comply.
4. I-pods are allowed, but keep the volume low enough as to not disturb those around you.
5. Movies are allowed on bus. They must be pre-approved before watching. PG and most PG-13 movies are ok, but R rated movies are NOT allowed.

Hotel Rules and Regulations

1. No one will leave one's room after curfew. After curfew you will only open the door for chaperones and hotel officials.
2. Doors must be kept open if a member of the opposite sex is in your room.
3. Obey all rules set by the hotel.
4. Be respectful of other guests. You will be held responsible if the manager calls Mrs. Gilberston's room because of a disturbance.
5. Do not take towels or souvenirs from your room. You will be charged for these items and any other damage to your hotel room.
6. Keep your door locked at all times.
7. At no time is anyone outside of Becker Bands allowed to enter your hotel room. Do not give out your hotel name and room number to anyone.
8. Students are not allowed to stay in a chaperone's room or a room other than the assigned hotel room.

Permission, Medical Information and Waiver Form

All Minnesota State High School league and Becker High School Handbook rules and expectations apply on this trip. Any student not complying with the guidelines set for them should expect a disciplinary action. Any involvement in alcohol, drugs, or tobacco will be handled by the Police Department as well as Becker High School. Any involvement in these substances will result in the student being sent home with a chaperone. Parents will pay for the cost of the plane/bus ride for the student and chaperone. By this Waiver, I assume any risk, and take full responsibility for my child and waive any claims of personal injury, death, or damage to personal property associated with Becker HS Band tour 2014. I understand and confirm that by signing this waiver and release I have given up considerable future legal rights. I have signed this agreement freely, voluntarily, under no duress.

*I understand, and will comply, with the statement above. I give my permission for my child to travel with the Becker High School Bands to Memphis and New Orleans.

Parent signature _____

Student signature _____

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Insurance Company _____ policy number _____

MEDICAL ALERTS

Student Name: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Please inform us of any of your child's special needs (ex. diabetic, epilepsy etc.) and also allergies, medication or prescriptions.

In case of emergency, please give us a phone number(s) in which we can reach you:

Thank you so much for the information! This sheet will be with Mrs. Gilbertson at all times.