



## **ALEDO ISD BOARD MEETING TEMPLATE**

**MEETING DATE:** February 18, 2013

**AGENDA ITEM:** Consider Approval of Aledo Middle School Honor Band to Attend Midwest Clinic in Chicago, December, 2013

**PRESENTER:** Dan Manning

**ALIGNS TO BOARD PRIORITY(S):** **LEARNING-** the District will provide an aligned, rigorous curriculum, with instructional and technology programs preparing students to meet or exceed all educational standards.

**PARENTS AND COMMUNITY-**Parents and members of the community will have meaningful opportunities to participate in the educational processes of the Aledo ISD.

### **Background Information:**

- The AMS Honor Winds (top band) has an opportunity to be invited to perform a concert at the 2013 Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic next December in Chicago. Before being invited to perform, the organizers of the event need to receive a commitment from the school district that the students will be allowed to attend if invited.
- Dates for the conference are Dec. 18-21, 2013.

### **Administrative Considerations:**

- AMS Band Director, Mr. Ryan Johnstone has put together the proposed trip itinerary including educational merit, all trip costs and logistics, safety requirements, and chaperone needs in alignment with all District expectations. A basic itinerary is located on the next page.
- Board Policy FMG (LOCAL) states that out of state trips for middle school age students can only be approved if the superintendent believes there are extenuating circumstances that allow the trip to be approved. The Board must approve all such proposed trips.
- AMS Principal Cheryl Jones and I have reviewed the proposal and believe this proposed trip does present an outstanding opportunity for our band students and has support from the majority of parents of the students. The superintendent does recommend that the Board approve the trip.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Costs for the trip will be borne by band booster funds, fundraising and parent support.

**Administrative Recommendation:** Superintendent recommends approval of the proposed AMS Honor Band trip to the Midwest International Band Orchestra Clinic in Chicago in December, 2013, (if invited) as presented.

## **December 2013 Proposed Aledo Middle School Band Trip**

The AMS Honor Winds (top band) may be invited to perform a concert at the 2013 Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic next December. Before being invited to perform, the organizers of the event need to receive a commitment from the school district that the students will be allowed to attend.

### **Applying to perform at the Midwest Clinic**

An invitation to perform at the Midwest Clinic is one of the highest honors any band or orchestra can receive. The process is quite competitive, with close to 100 groups applying **from all over the world** each year. In March, a committee of respected music educators assembles to consider all applications. Professional, collegiate, community, high school and middle school bands and orchestras are all considered separately.

**Conference dates: December 18-21, 2013**

### **Itinerary:**

- All aspects of the trip's itinerary will be planned and organized by a trip company that has specific experience with groups that have attended the Midwest Clinic as performers.
- Travel to and from Chicago will be by air. This is a safer and more logical way to transport middle school students.
- Travel within Chicago will be by chartered buses specifically contracted for AMS Band use only. This would also be coordinated by the trip company.
- Maximum possible days missed from school: 3; Minimum possible days missed from school: 2
- Total per student cost: Approximately \$1000; costs will be offset by the Aledo band booster organization and fundraisers for the trip. School funds would not be used. No student will be denied access to the trip for financial reasons.
- Hotel used would be mainstream (Sheraton, Embassy, Hilton, or similar)
- 8-to-1 student to chaperone ratio. School chaperones would include several Aledo ISD band directors as well as parents who have passed district background check requirements.
- Trips sponsors will also be recruiting a doctor or nurse for the trip as a dedicated medical professional with no other chaperone duties. The chaperone team for our overnight spring trip to San Antonio each of the last 3 years has had at least one nurse or doctor.

The trip would also include educational tours of attractions such as:

- The Museum of Science and Industry
- Adler Planetarium
- Shedd Aquarium
- The Field Museum
- The Art Institute of Chicago
- Hancock Observatory
- The Chicago Symphony