



Proposal for Overnight/Extended Student Trips (Academic)

Email Address	<i>jeffry.duster@rimsd41.org</i>
Type of Trip	<i>2026 IDC Debate Tournament (Varsity)</i>
Proposed Departure Date	<i>Mar 20, 2026</i>
Return Date	<i>Mar 21, 2026</i>
Proposer	<i>Jeff Duster</i>
School	<i>RIHS</i>
Position	<i>Educator/Head Debate Coach</i>
Date By Which Response Is Needed	<i>Mar 06, 2026</i>
What is the major place to be visited or event to be attended?	<i>The IDC State Debate Tournament (Varsity) at Homewood-Flossmoor High School</i>
How is the trip related to the educational program of the District?	<i>The trip is part of a competition for the Rock Island High School Speech and Debate team.</i>
In what ways will the students benefit?	<i>Students will have the opportunity to sharpen their debate skills by competing against some of the best competition in the state.</i>
In what ways will the District benefit?	<i>Participating and competing in Debate has proven to accelerate the reading comprehension scores of students who are involved in this activity. Debate is also an activity that many colleges like to see on applications from prospective students.</i>
How will the trip be evaluated to determine the extent to which these benefits were realized?	<i>Students are judged by impartial judges to determine whether or not they win their various rounds.</i>
Which students (grade, class, or organization) will be going?	<i>Students in grades 9-12 will be going.</i>
How many students in total?	<i>6</i>
How many students are currently experiencing academic problems?	<i>N/A</i>
Which staff members will be in charge?	<i>Jeff Duster</i>
What previous experience has the staff member had in conducting overnight or extended field trips?	<i>We have made various trips to the JV/Novice IDC Tournament and the Varsity IDC (formerly IHSA) Tournament over the course of the last ten years.</i>

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What other staff members will be going?	<i>N/A</i>
How many chaperones, in addition to staff members, will be going?	<i>0</i>
What are their names and affiliations with the students?	<i>N/A</i>
How many days of school will be missed?	<i>0</i>
How will teachers be advised in advance that the students will be out of school?	<i>N/A</i>
How will missed work be made up?	<i>N/A</i>
What special assistance will be provided to students with academic problems?	<i>They can consult with me if they have concerns about their classes.</i>
What is the destination?	<i>2026 IDC State Debate Tournament at Homewood-Flossmoor High School.</i>
What will be the mode of transportation? What liability insurance does the carrier have?	<i>We will be taking the school minibus</i>
Where will the group be housed and fed?	<i>Lunch/Dinner is provided at the tournament on both Friday and Saturday. We will stop for lunch on our way to Homewood-Flossmoor.</i>
What enroute or supplementary activities are planned?	<i>No supplemental activities are planned.</i>
What arrangements have been made for dealing with emergency situations?	<i>All parental contact information is on file along with athletic contracts. There will be medical personnel on site at the tournament.</i>
If tour guides are involved, what liability insurance do they carry?	<i>N/A</i>
What is the estimated total cost and cost per student?	<i>The estimated total cost is \$800 (hotel, tournament, fees, tournament food fees). The cost per student is limited to lunch on Friday and Dinner on Saturday.</i>
What is the source of funds?	<i>Debate/Speech Budget</i>
How will the funds be collected and safeguarded?	<i>I will hand carry funds to the tournament. I will use my debit card to pay for the hotel rooms with the</i>

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	<i>understanding that I will be reimbursed when we return.</i>
How will any shortfall be made up or excess funds used?	<i>Checks will be made out directly to: Illinois Debate Community. The cost of the hotel will be covered by Jeff Duster with the understanding that he will be reimbursed from the Speech/Debate budget upon returning from the competition.</i>
What provision has been made for students who are financially unable to pay any necessary costs?	<i>N/A</i>
How will you communicate to parents prior to, during, and after the trip?	<i>A letter has already been written and will be sent home and returned by February 20th. Contact information is on hand for emergencies. Students will contact parents regarding an exact return time from the tournament.</i>
List telephone numbers at destination where group will be housed.	<i>La Quinta Inn and Suites by Wyndham Chicago Tinley Park: (708) 633-1200. Homewood-Flossmoor High School: (708) 799-3000</i>
What information will be provided to the media and the community?	<i>N/A</i>
Athletic Director Approval (Athletic trips only)	Approved by
Principal approval	Approved by <i>Patricia Ulrich</i>
Superintendent/Designee approval	Approved by <i>Scott Vance</i> on Jan 28, 2026 13:03
Signature of School Board Representative	