

I recommend approving the Student Extended Trip for the high school choir and band, March 26-31, 2015, as presented. The proposal was developed in accordance with Policy 566 Student Extended Trip Policy. The proposal complies with the requirements of the policy.

2015 Becker High School Choir and Band Trip Proposal

The Becker High School 11-12 grade Choir and Band, under the direction of Gretchen Bordson and Jessica Gilbertson, are seeking permission to travel to New York City during March 26th-March 31st, 2015. We would leave after school on the last day of 3rd quarter and travel during spring break.

Trip Purposes:

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

- Performing at St. John the Divine, a unique venue and wonderful acoustical space in New York City.
- Attending a Broadway Show - exposes them to the best musical theater in the world.
- Attending a Broadway workshop with cast members from the show they attended the night before on Broadway. This experience will expand student learning and interest in the area of musical theater as well as inform them of careers in theater.
- Sight seeing the many attractions exposes the students to New York City history and culture.
- Statistics show that students who feel valued, involved, and respected are more successful in school and traveling on a choir trip creates that type of a bond with the members.
- Educational opportunities outside of the classroom that will enhance learning in choir, 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 choir and band program at Becker High School.
- Traveling helps recruit and retain members and increases commitment in the choir and band programs.

Destination:

The destination is New York City. The students will be traveling in motor coaches. The following is the proposed itinerary. Students will not miss school days with the proposed dates. Everything is included in the price as well as several meals, which are marked on the itinerary.

March 26

2:30 pm Load bus.
2:45 pm Depart for New York City
Note: Motorcoach ride with food stops on your own

March 27

2:40 pm Arrive New York area and check in to hotel
3:15 pm Depart to Yankee Stadium
4:15 pm Walk around Yankee Stadium observation area
4:45 pm Depart for Times Square. \$5 Meal included
7:00 pm Depart for pooltime at the hotel.

March 28

6:30 am Breakfast at hotel Meal included
7:00 am Depart for NYC.
7:50 am Arrive at NBC Today Show studio window for 8 & 8:30am weather reports seen nationally.
8:30 am Depart for St. John the Divine Cathedral – Choir Performance (9:15am)
10:00 am Depart for Grey Papaya Hot Dog Stand. \$5 Meal included
11:00 pm Walking Tour of Central Park by Poets Walk, “Friends” fountains, Trump Skating Rink, Sheeps Meadow, Lower Central Park band shell &. Strawberry Fields .

1:15 pm Arrive at FAO Schwarts toy store & Plaza Hotel area.
1:30 pm Walk to Trump Towers.
1:45 pm Walk to St Patrick's Cathedral and shopping on 5th Ave
3:10 pm Walk to Tour Radio City Music Hall (3:15, 3:30, 3:45 - 30 per group)
Shop in Rockefeller Center & NBC Studio gift shop
5:45 pm Depart for 6:30pm Dinner/Harbor Cruise - Buffet Meal included
10:00 pm Depart for motel after cruise

March 29

8:00 am Breakfast at motel. Meal included
8:30 am Depart for 10am Making Music Clinic
11:30 am Depart to Greenwich Village \$5 Meal included
2:00 pm Depart for Empire State building observation deck (2:30pm admission)
4:30 pm Depart to Grand Central Station
5:15 pm Walk to Times Square via Bryant Park & New York Library
6:30 pm Walk to Broadway play
10:30 pm Depart for motel

March 30

7:30 am Breakfast at Motel Meal included
8:00 am Check out, load luggage, and depart by 8:15 am
Arrive for 9:15 am St John's Devine Choir performance
9:30 am Depart for Carnegie Hall photo opportunity
9:45am Walk to Letterman Show front Doors & Hello Deli
10:15am Depart for China Town.
12:00 pm Little Italy – authentic lunch & shopping. Meal included
1:00 pm Depart for walk across the Brooklyn Bridge.
2:15 pm Walk past Trinity Church and Wall Street
2:45 pm Walk to 911 Memorial (3:00 entrance)
4:15 pm Depart for home Stop at Laumbardi Plaza for food stop and fuel

March 31

2:30 pm Arrive High School. \$5 Meal included

Housing and Chaperones:

Students, director, and all chaperones will be staying in the same off-site hotel to save money.

Hotel Information:

Holiday Inn
129 Pehle Avenue
Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07663

Hotel Overview

Ideally situated near Newark International Airport, LaGuardia Airport and exciting New York City, NY, the Holiday Inn Saddle Brook hotel blends modern luxury and impeccable service in a premier setting near New Jersey's leading businesses and attractions. While lodging in Saddle Brook, NJ, hotel guests can enjoy visiting New York City and the New Meadowlands. An indoor heated pool, a well-equipped Fitness Center, and complimentary shuttle services within a 5-mile radius are also available for your convenience.

Students will be staying in rooms grouped into 4's by the directors. 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 2013, approximately 70 percent of our junior and senior choir members attended the New York City trip. Judging from this percentage (which has been pretty accurate with all of our previous trips), we should have approximately 110 choir and band students traveling this year.

Transportation:

Motor Coach Buses will transport the students at all times.

Travel Company and Cost:

The cost of the trip will range from \$675-\$725, depending on the number of students attending. The students are aware that we will not exceed \$725. Chaperones will pay half of the student 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 money they raise stays in their individual accounts until they graduate. Any money accumulated throughout these years can be applied to the cost of the trip. This year there will be two fundraisers for the students to participate in: Fruit sale, Coffee Sale.

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. Bordson's or Mrs. Gilbertson'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 the Becker Choir or Band 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 Choir and Band tour 2015. 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 Choir and Band to New York City.**

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 kept confidential and will be with Mrs. Bordson and Mrs. Gilbertson at all times in case of emergency.