



WINONA WILDCAT BANDS

DIRECTOR
Jerry Whorton



4-29-09

Parents:

This is just a brief letter informing you the status of the Swine Flu outbreak. Mr. Vonner and I are closely monitoring the situation and would like to assure you that every precaution is being taken to ensure the safety of our children. We do ask that your child is tested for the Swine Flu before we leave on a 18 hour bus ride if they show the symptoms. Influenza usually starts suddenly. Symptoms include:

- Headache
- Tiredness (can be extreme)
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Body aches
- Diarrhea and vomiting

Of course, we don't want to over react, but it is important that you know that we are concerned as a district. Mr. Vonner and I will make a decision based on how it is affecting the Washington, D.C. area as well as the school districts in that proximity. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at any time.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Whorton".

Jerry Whorton
903-944-8349 cell
903-939-4150 office

THERE WILL BE A MANDATORY INFORMATIONAL STUDENT MEETING FOR THE BAND TRIP ON MONDAY, MAY 4TH AT 6PM IN THE BANDHALL. PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND! CALL 903-939-4150 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS!!!



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Washington, D.C. Trip Rules And Regulations

Travel Conduct: A Band trip is a public performance within itself. Many fine organizations have destroyed their reputations on buses, at hotels rooms and at recreational functions. All students **MUST** adhere to the following rules and regulations while traveling on the Washington, D.C. Trip:

1. No Loud Obnoxious behavior anytime, any place!
2. No exterior speakers anytime. (Head phones only)
3. Absolutely No questionable language!
4. No switching buses during the trip.
5. DO NOT ask for the itinerary to be changed! (It is a group trip, not a personal trip.)
6. You **MUST** be on time for the itinerary! Make it your business. Long lines are not an excuse.
7. Listen to and adhere to changes from the director.
8. Absolutely no tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs of any type.
9. One large suitcase, one carry on bag and one small ice cooler allowed for the trip.
10. Hotel rooms **MUST** be left the way they were found. (CLEAN)
11. Members of the opposite sex are not allowed in each other's rooms unless there is an adult chaperone in the room. (the students may socialize in the pool and/or pool area as long as it is not just 1 couple i.e. girlfriend / boyfriend)
12. Students must have a travel form on file with the director before departure of a trip.
13. All school rules apply. (See WISD STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT)
14. Horseplay of any kind will not be tolerated at anytime.
15. Do Not complain or whine on this trip.
16. No stomachs showing, no short skirts.
17. You must be dressed in school regulation clothes at all times when out of the hotel.
18. Adult Chaperones must be respected.
19. Swimming apparel must be made for swimming, i.e. no shorts and t-shirts to swim in (they must be swim suits)
20. You are representing your school and yourself! Make sure that your clothing is appropriate at all times. We would hate to have someone change clothes because they look indecent. Girls, two piece swimsuits are OK, but please make that they are modest and that they cover everything! If you think that one person will question it, please wear a dark shirt over your top. The chaperones will warn you only once, and then swimming privileges will be removed. You may wear shorts, but please make sure that they are a modest length. No midriff, halter, or backless tops.

Possible Consequences For Discipline Problems: The following list is not an order. A student with discipline problems could receive any of the consequences based on the severity and/or history of discipline problems.

1. Warning
2. Referral to director
3. Phone call to parents
4. Removal from all scheduled activities (loss of all trip privileges)
5. Dismissal from the organization
6. Arrest by local or state police
7. Students sent home at parents expense

I have read, fully understand and agree to the stated rules and regulations for the May 5-9, 2009 Washington, D.C. trip.

(Parent signature)

(Date)

(Student signature)

(Date)



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WASHINGTON BAND TRIP FORM / MEDICAL RELEASE

_____ has my permission to participate in the 2009 Winona Band Trip to Washington, D.C. on May 9-10, 2009. We release Winona I.S.D. from any liability in case of accident. The student will be under the supervision of The Director of Bands, **Jerry Whorton**, and all precautions will be taken.

I understand that while on this trip my child will be expected to conduct himself/herself in such a manner that will in every way represent Winona I.S.D. and the Winona Community in a positive and respectful manner. I have read the guidelines with my child and we both understand them.

(Parent signature)

(Student Signature)

MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

If, in the judgment of any representative of the school, the above student should need immediate care and treatment as a result of any injury or sickness, I do hereby request, authorize, and consent to such care and indemnify and save harmless the school and any school or hospital representative from any claim by any person on account of such care and treatment of said student.

(Parent signature)

(Date)

Student's Name _____ Sex _____ Age _____

Date of Birth _____ Height _____ Weight _____

Family Insurance Company _____ Policy # _____

Agent's Name, Address, Phone Number _____

Please list any authorized medication that the student is allowed to have with them, the dosage, and the times to be administered (i.e. insulin, etc.) _____

Allergies, if any _____

Any other special conditions or needs? _____

Parent contact information: Daytime phone _____ Evening phone _____

Cell phones (1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____

Additional contact information: _____



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WASHINGTON, D.C. FAQ'S (Frequently Asked Questions) ☺

What can we wear while on the trip?

- ❖ Shirts may be sleeveless but must cover the shoulder and back entirely
- ❖ Shirts must be of appropriate length and cover the entire chest and stomach
- ❖ Shorts, skirts and dresses must be no higher than fingertip length
- ❖ No part of the attire may display indecent or improper messages or advertisements, i.e. alcohol, tobacco, or sexual references

(A good rule of thumb regarding dress codes: If you have to ask, “Is this in dress code regulations?” –DON’T WEAR IT!!)

When do we sleep on the bus?

- ❖ You will sleep on the bus to Washington, and back to Winona. Quiet hours on the bus (no more than a whisper) are from 12AM to 7AM.

Can we bring a pillow and blanket?

- ❖ Yes, but please make sure that it is small enough to keep in your own area. No girls and boys are to sit together on a bus at night time. No blankets are allowed if sitting girl / boy during the day. The bus will get cold, so please bring something to keep you warm.

Can we bring snacks?

- ❖ Yes, I encourage you to bring as much as you would like, but make sure that you’re responsible for your mess.

I lose things easily.... Who will hold my money?

- ❖ Mr. Whorton will have a check – out system in place for holding students money. Both Mr. Whorton and the student will sign off the money when handed out. Don’t ask for change, bring the money in the bills you want it in.

Can we go places without a chaperone?

- ❖ Absolutely NOT! You are to be with your assigned chaperone at all times. No students are allowed to go where they want without supervision.

Can I bring my attitude with me?

- ❖ NOPE! Leave your attitude at the house!
- ❖ Always remember that there are 60 other people on this trip... make it fun for all!
- ❖ School trip... act accordingly.... All school rules apply!

Can we bring movies for the bus ride?

- ❖ Yes! All movies must be approved by Mr. Whorton. Please don’t bring anything questionable that would make anyone uncomfortable.

HAVE FUN AND BE SAFE ON THIS TRIP!!

What to bring on the band trip...

Luggage-

You are permitted 1 suitcase and 1 carry on. You may bring snacks on the bus, but this will have to fit in your overhead.

Clothes –

You will need to be dressed for traveling overnight on the bus. Pajamas are **NOT ALLOWED** while riding on the bus. Comfortable, loose fitting clothes are permitted. Please make sure that nothing questionable is worn at any time. I do not care if you wear flip-flops or shorts; just make sure that it represents the band well.

The weather for Washington, DC is supposed to be anywhere from the mid 60's to the upper 70's. There is a chance of rain, but I do not anticipate much of it. You should pack clothes for 4 days, and one "Sunday's Best" pair of clothes for the performance at Mt. Vernon and Spirit of Washington Cruise / Dance. Every student should be in their nicest pair of clothes they own. I do not want to see blue jeans for the performance. Boys must be in a shirt and tie, and Girls are welcome to wear a dress, but are encouraged to bring clothes to change into because of all of the walking. There will be a lot of walking, so plan ahead and make sure that you bring shoes that are already broken in... and are **COMFORTABLE!!** Bring a light jacket for evening activities... it could get cool on the bus as well as outside at night.

Swim Attire-

We have an indoor pool at our hotel and it is important that we represent our community well. You are representing your school and yourself! Make sure that your clothing is appropriate at all times. We would hate to have someone change clothes because they look indecent. Girls, two piece swimsuits are OK, but please make that they are modest and that they cover everything! If you think that one person will question it, please wear a dark shirt over your top. The chaperones will warn you only once, and then swimming privileges will be removed. You may wear shorts, but please make sure that they are a modest length. No midriff, halter, or backless tops.

Hygiene Products-

We are in an enclosed bus for a minimum of 18 hours each way. Please be considerate of others at all times while on this trip. This means if you have athletics before you leave for the trip, take a shower, put on deodorant, and put on clean and fresh clothes. At no time are you to spray perfume, cologne, body spray, or any other fragrance while on the bus. The chaperones will have air freshener, and only a chaperone is permitted to spray the air freshener. Please take special time to pack all of the essentials. i.e. toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, SOAP, deodorant, feminine hygiene products. If you are prone to colds or carsickness, please pack the appropriate medications. *****The restroom on the bus is for emergencies ONLY*****

Medications-

If you have medications that you take on a regular basis, please have these turned in to Mr. Whorton before we leave on the trip. Over the counters such as Tylenol and Aspirin are permitted and do not need to be turned in. Anything additional must be turned into Mr. Whorton.

Money \$

PLEASE BRING A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF MONEY. ACCORDING TO THE ITINERARY, YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY FOR 1 BREAKFAST, 4 LUNCHESES, AND 4 DINNERS. I WOULD PLAN FOR ONE "NICE" DINNER FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT. EVERYTHING ELSE WILL BE FAST FOOD TYPE MEALS. IF YOU PACK SNACKS, A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF MONEY TO PLAN FOR IS ABOUT \$80 FOR MEALS. THERE WILL BE SHIRTS AND SOUVENIRS FOR YOU TO PURCHASE AS WELL AS ANYTHING ELSE YOUR HEART DESIRES. IF YOU BRING \$80 FOR MEALS, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SPEND MUCH ON ANYTHING ELSE. IF YOU BRING \$250, YOU WILL HAVE TO MUCH... EACH PARENT AND CHILD SHOULD MAKE A DECISION TOGETHER TO DECIDE WHAT IS REASONABLE FOR EACH STUDENT.

Instrument-

Make sure that you pack your instrument and music for this trip. We will be playing Lt. Commander March, and America, The Beautiful.

What NOT to bring on the band trip...

- MORE \$\$ THAN YOU NEED FOR A 5 DAY TRIP
- EXPENSIVE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO PART WITH IF IT GETS LOST/STOLEN
- EXPENSIVE AND/OR IMPORTANT JEWELRY THAT IS NOT NEEDED FOR THIS TRIP...IT IS NOT WORTH RISKING THE LOSS OF SOMETHING THAT CAN NOT BE REPLACED
- SQUIRT GUNS AND UNNECESSARY TOYS THAT WILL GET YOU IN TROUBLE
- AN ATTITUDE THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE TO FOLLOW THE SAME RULES AS EVERYONE ELSE. THIS WILL GET YOU SENT HOME.THINK TO YOURSELF...DO I REALLY WANT MY PARENTS CALLED AND GIVEN A 18 HOUR DRIVE TO STEW ABOUT THE FACT I AM BEING SENT HOME? OR WORSE YET, THE RETURN TRIP OF 18 HOURS WITH THEM IN THE CAR...OR REALLY REALLY WORSE YET—THE CONSEQUENCES AT SCHOOL ON MONDAY MORNING ?? IS A PRANK, JOKE, ATTITUDE OR SOME OTHER SILLY THING REALLY WORTH ALL THIS???