

EIGHTH GRADE CLASS TRIP CONTRACT

The eighth grade trip is an event that we look forward to every year. It is an opportunity to take learning “outside the classroom,” as well as a way to reward students for their hard work in class over the course of the year. With this in mind, I strive to include a variety of experiences that will be not only educational, but fun for everyone as well.

While the trip itself is typically a few days, it is really the culmination of a great deal of work and planning that begins shortly after the new year begins. Transportation and lodging reservations need to be made early, schedules coordinated, and chaperones identified. Moreover, the class holds a number of fundraising opportunities over the course of the year to help defray the costs of the trip. Because so much time and effort is required—by myself, students and parents alike—to make the trip a success, we have created a *Class Trip Contract* to clearly establish the policies, procedures and expectations with respect to the trip preparations.

1. **Dates.** The Eighth Grade Class Trip for the 2011-2012 school year will take place during the week of Tuesday, May 29th through Friday, June 1st this year.
2. **Attendance.** It is presumed at the beginning of the school year that every member of the eighth grade class will go on the trip. Because changes in the total number of people going on the trip affect reservations and overall cost, it is important that parents inform me as soon as possible if a student will be unable to go. Furthermore, it is important to remember that even though we will not be at school during the trip, it is nevertheless a school activity for which credit is given and to which the usual rules regarding attendance apply. Therefore any student who is unable to go on the trip will be expected to attend school at Trinity during the week of the trip; separate arrangements will be made for that student regarding lessons, projects, and assignments.
3. **Costs, Fund-Raising and Payment.** The total per-person cost of the trip obviously varies depending upon what activities are scheduled and the number of people going. That said, based on past trips, I would estimate the cost to be somewhere between \$300 and \$400. The per person cost is the same for everyone who goes on the trip—myself, students, and parent chaperones. To help defray the cost of the trip, students have the opportunity to participate in a number of fund-raisers (planned by a parent volunteer) over the course of the school year. Many of these fund-raisers have been very successful in the past—often, students have been able to cover the cost of their own trip as well as the cost of their parent’s trip! The following provisions explain how the fund-raisers work.
 - a. **Application of Funds Raised.** The money raised by fund-raising activities becomes the property of the Eighth Grade Class, to be used exclusively towards the cost of the Class Trip. The amount of money raised by each fund-raising activity is apportioned to each individual participating based on the number of hours that individual worked. By way of illustration, consider the following example:

Trip, that student or chaperone will not be responsible for any part of his or her individual trip cost. If a student or chaperone informs me at any time during the Second Trimester, that he or she will not be able to go on the Class Trip, that student or chaperone will be responsible for paying 50% of their individual cost. If a student or chaperone informs me at any time during the Third Trimester, that he or she will not be able to go on the Class Trip, that student or chaperone will be responsible for the full amount of their individual cost.

- b. **Payment and Penalty.** Any student or chaperone who incurs a cancellation penalty under this provision may either pay the penalty out-of-pocket, or through participation in fund-raising activities as described above.

Kirstin Hanna

Eighth Grade Teacher

Parent Signature

Parent Name (Please Print)

Student Signature

Student Name (Please Print)

Over...

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

_____ Yes, I _____ **will** be going on the class trip.

_____ No, I _____ **will not** be going on the class trip.