



End of Year Trip for 8th Graders - Information Letter

2023-2024

New York City and Washington, D.C.

Raa Middle School's annual end-of-year trip for 8th-grade students is a time-honored tradition. The trip provides students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge of key United States government institutions, monuments, and memorials in Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia. Additionally, as a Performing Arts Magnet school, students will have a chance to experience first-hand the nation's premier cultural performing arts center by touring sites in New York City.

The New York/Washington trip begins on **Sunday, March 17, 2024**, through **Saturday, March 23, 2024**. We will **depart on March 17th from Raa's bus ramp at 12:30 pm**. We will **return to Raa on March 23rd, arriving around 9:30 am**. This trip will be limited to 100 students. Spots will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis when students pay their initial non-refundable deposit. Please note that once these spaces fill up, we cannot secure another bus or tickets unless **AT LEAST 36 additional students are on the waiting list by the 2nd payment on deposit deadline on Tuesday, October 31st**.

Payment / Information

- New this year! Families will pay for the trip through the eFunds for School online payment system. The eFunds system offers convenience similar to other online banking services. Additional details will be shared during the first parent meeting (see date and time on back page).
- The **New York/Washington** trip will cost each student **\$1,340.00**. Itemized per person costs are as follows:
 - **Transportation cost** **\$380.00**
 - **Hotels (with security)** **\$231.18**
 - **Meals** **\$360.00**
 - **Tickets and Activities** **\$323.76**
 - **Trip supplies (e.g., t-shirts, etc.)** **\$45.60**
- If minimal funds remain after all expenses have been paid, any remaining funds will be spent on miscellaneous end of year activities that directly benefit your child.
- **\$1005** of this student fee will be non-refundable after **November 30th**. After payment of deposit and associated expenses, this non-refundable amount cannot be recovered by the district to issue refunds to students. In the event that the non-refundable portion of the student fee was used to purchase tangible items (T-shirts, tickets, etc.) on behalf of your student, those items will be provided to your child.
- Trip details and rooming information will be sent home through Social Studies classes and announced during lunch.
- Also, please sign up for our ***Remind*** account to receive text updates about payment dates, trip information, and status reports while we are on the trips!!
 - To sign-up for ***Remind*** for the ***Raa NYC/DC*** trip, text the message **@24raanycdc** to 81010

- Trip payments can be broken down as follows:
 - **Deposit (non-refundable) of \$335 on Friday, September 29th**
 - **2nd payment of \$335 on Tuesday, October 31st**
 - **3rd payment of \$335 on Thursday, November 30th**
 - **4th (final) payment of \$335 on Wednesday, January 31st**
 - **If preferred**, parents/guardians are welcome to pay for the trip in one lump sum of \$ **1,340**.
- Trip payments will be **accepted beginning Friday, September 29, 2023, through the eFunds for School system.** Information regarding payment through eFunds for School will be distributed during the parent meeting (see date and time below).
- Students **must submit** their **Activity Form and Behavior Contract** on the date of their first payment (will be distributed before deposit due date). Completed forms may be given to their Social Studies teacher or brought to Mrs. Williams in Student Services.

Hope Williams

Trip Coordinator

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**** The field trip is pending School Board Approval – we will know more after the first meeting.**