

January 18, 2011

Dear Band Parents and Students:

We are beginning our preparations for the annual Spring Band Trip. This year, the GWMS Concert and Symphonic Bands (approximately 140 students) will be competing in the Music in the Parks Festival at Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, Virginia on May 13-14th. The actual per student cost will be approximately \$220 which will be offset by each student's fundraising balance; the final cost for each student will depend on the success of each individual student's fundraising. Future opportunities to offset the cost will be available through the annual Spring fundraiser. The total cost will include round-trip transportation aboard deluxe motor coaches, accommodations for one night, selected meals, a GWMS Band t-shirt, festival fees, and admission to Busch Gardens. Based on the fall popcorn fundraiser and any amounts left over from last year's fundraising activity, your current account balance is:

Student: Account Balance: \$

At this point, we are asking for the following if your student plans to attend the trip:

- **\$50 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit** to secure your child's reservation (Note: This year the amount of the deposit required depends on the student's current account balance. No deposit is required if the balance is above \$150.)
- **Permission Slip** to be signed by parent/guardian and student. (Enclosure #1)
- **Health Form** – *Required by ACPS for all participants* (Enclosure #3). It is very important to fill out the Health Form completely. To ensure the safety of all participants, all student medications (including over-the-counter medications) must be given to the designated chaperone on the morning of departure from school on May 13th. The chaperone will be responsible for ensuring medications are taken on schedule, and in the proper amount. The only exception is inhalers, which students are permitted to keep in their possession. If there are any privacy concerns about the information contained on your child's Health Form, please place it in a sealed envelope before delivering to school. The only individuals with access to information on these forms are the band directors, trip coordinator and one assigned chaperone (the School Nurse generally): all are required to comply with Federal health information privacy regulations.

More detailed information will be forthcoming as we finalize our plans.

Please read the GWMS Band Code of Conduct (Enclosure #2) and discuss it with your child. Fill in and sign the Permission Slip, parent/guardian and student signatures are required. Return the signed Permission Slip and completed Health Form with your non-refundable deposit check payable to *GWMS Band Boosters*, to the band directors in advance of January 28th. If you have any questions about the trip, please contact Mr. Seracino or Mr. Olney at 703-706-4545 or via email at rseracin@acps.k12.va.us or casey.olney@acps.k12.va.us. (For questions about your account balance, please contact Deborah Lockett at (703) 862-3210 or debo@tindell.net.)

We are looking forward to a successful and enjoyable trip!

Enclosures:

- #1 Permission Slip
- #2 GWMS Band Code of Conduct
- #3 ACPS Health Form

Mr. Rick Seracino, Band Director
Mr. Casey Olney, Band Director

GEORGE WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
PERMISSION SLIP
MUSIC IN THE PARKS FESTIVAL
BUSCH GARDENS, WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA
MAY 13-14, 2011

Student's Name _____

Address/City/Zip Code _____

Parent's E-mail _____

Grade Level _____

Symphonic Band Concert Band
(circle one)

I hereby give permission for, _____ to participate
(Student's Name)

in the band trip to Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, Virginia for the Music in the Parks Festival band competition on May 13-14, 2011. I have discussed the **GWMS Band Code of Conduct** with my child, and we understand and agree with these conduct requirements. I am enclosing a nonrefundable deposit (if required) to secure my child's reservation, and the required Health Form.

Student's signature

Parent/guardian signature

T-Shirt Size (adult sizes): S M L XL XXL XXXL (circle one)

GEORGE WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
CODE OF CONDUCT
MUSIC IN THE PARKS FESTIVAL
BUSCH GARDENS, WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA
MAY 13-14, 2011

Conduct yourself in a manner that brings credit to you, your family, your school and your community, so that you are a positive reflection on George Washington Middle School.

Refrain from the use of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, or drugs.

Be loyal, honest, courteous and sportsmanlike in all dealings with the Directors, band members, and chaperones. Disrespect of any staff member, parent volunteer, or fellow student will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action.

Refrain from foul language and comments. This is a reflection on you, your family, and George Washington Middle School.

Adult chaperones are available to assist you. They should receive your complete attention, cooperation, and respect. Watch, listen, and cooperate with adult and student leaders during band functions.

Special care should be taken to see that all personal and school property is properly cared for. Pack instruments carefully for travel. Place identification tags on all personal items, and make sure all instruments cases are labeled properly. Take care that nothing is damaged, lost, or misplaced. You will be held responsible for damaged, lost, or misplaced school property in your care.

Be at the right place, at the right time, for all band activities, with the proper equipment, attire and attitude.

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EMERGENCY CARE INFORMATION

SCHOOL YEAR _____

In case of emergency, the school staff will call 911. Every attempt will be made to contact a parent/guardian or one of the designated emergency contacts.

Student resides with: father—mother—both—guardian (circle one)

Teacher: _____

Student name (last) _____	(first) _____	male/female _____
Date of Birth _____	School _____	Grade _____ Native language _____
Mother's name _____	address _____	
Home phone _____	work phone _____	cell phone _____
Father's name _____	address _____	
Home phone _____	work phone _____	cell phone _____
Guardian's name(s) _____	address _____	
Home phone _____	work phone _____	cell phone _____

This student has health insurance YES NO Name of health insurance company: _____
Name of Primary Health Care Provider _____ Phone: _____

Alternate persons who may make emergency decisions and/or pick up your child from school:
Name _____ phone numbers _____
Name _____ phone numbers _____

If there are no medical and/or health conditions that affect your child's school day, please sign and return this form to the school.
Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

If there are medical and/or health conditions that affect your child's school day, please complete the following information:
Allergies (food) _____ (medications) _____ (bees/insects) _____ Seasonal Allergies _____
Has Epi-Pen _____ Other allergy/medications (please list) _____
_____ Asthma _____ Albuterol inhaler _____ Blood disorder _____
_____ Cancer: type _____ Physical disability _____
_____ Diabetes: _____ insulin injections _____ insulin pump _____ Seizures (medicines) _____
_____ Hearing problems _____ hearing aids _____ Vision problems: _____ glasses _____ contacts _____
_____ Heart problems _____ Other health concerns: _____
How often does your child see a doctor for any of these conditions? _____
Are there any medications needed during the school day? _____ If yes, then please obtain the Medication Authorization forms from the school nurse. All students needing medication at school will need completed Medication Authorization forms on file in the school nurses' office.
Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____ 04/08



GW BAND TRIP 2011 VERY IMPORTANT POINTS!!

PLEASE REVIEW THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR CHILD.

FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS:

If your child will be bringing any **prescription or over-the-counter medications** (even Tylenol or Advil), please accompany your child into the GW band room prior to departure on Friday morning, May 13, and give the medications to the school nurse on site. All medications are to be sealed in a "Ziploc" style bag and clearly labeled with you child's name and dosing instructions.

Because we have approximately 140 students participating in this competition, it is essential that all students comply fully with the ***GWMS Band Code of Conduct***. **If, for any reason, a student's behavior is unacceptable, at the discretion of the band directors, parents/guardians will be contacted by phone and will be expected to drive to Williamsburg to pick up their child, regardless of the hour.**

All students participating in the trip are required to ride the bus to and from Williamsburg. Parents may NOT pick up their children from Busch Gardens.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

- *George Washington Inn, Williamsburg:* 1-757-220-1410
- Busch Gardens Williamsburg: 800-343-7946
- Educational Programs Network (Music in the Parks) 1-888-323-0974
- Deborah Schoemer, GWMS nurse: cell 703-402-9280
- Ellen Bradley, parent chaperone and trip coordinator: cell 703-869-7106

CHAPERONES:

If you would like to Chaperone, please email Deborah at debo@tindell.net. If needed, spots will be filled by lottery.

WHAT TO BRING:

Band Items:

- Instrument (name tag, provided prior to departure)
- Instrument accessories (cleaning items, oil, slide grease, reeds, etc.)
- Music folder

Full uniform:

Concert Band: *Gentlemen:* white dress shirt, black trousers, black socks, black shoes, dark tie.

Ladies: white blouse that buttons to collar, black skirt (at or below the knee) or black slacks, black hose or tights, black shoes.

Symphonic Band: white dress shirt that buttons to collar, black socks, black shoes, garment bag with GW band uniform.

Hotel Items & Clothing:

- Students are to adhere to the GWMS dress code. **Students will not be allowed on the bus wearing pajamas.**
- Luggage, one medium sized piece (name tag provided prior to departure)
- **Appropriate** sleepwear for Friday night.
- **Appropriate** swimwear & beach towel (or large bath towel).
- Clothes for Busch Gardens on Saturday.
- Personal items/toiletries (toothbrush, soap, hairdryer, deodorant, etc.)
- Any required medications **to be given to school nurse prior to departure.**

Park Items:

- Wristwatch
- Sunblock
- Comfortable shoes
- GWMS Band tee-shirt (to be given out on-site)
- Camera (preferably small and disposable)
- Lightweight jacket in case of cool weather
- Money: Friday pre performance stop at the Virginia Center Commons Mall in Glen Allen for snack/lunch, Saturday dinner/snacks and souvenirs at Busch Gardens. \$25-\$50 recommended.

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

Boombbox – VCR or DVD player – Xbox/PS2-3 – multiple CDs/DVDs – stuffed animals – more than one medium sized piece of luggage – anything that violates ACPS policy (pocketknives, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, etc.).

Excessive candy/sweets & caffeine drinks will be confiscated by the band director.

You may bring personal listening devices (iPods, etc) at your own risk. The band is not responsible for loss of any items.



2011 Spring Trip Busch Gardens, Williamsburg May 13 & 14

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DAY ONE: Friday, May 13, 2011

8:30 a.m. Students meet in the Band Room for trip briefing, label and pack instruments and uniforms for loading on motorcoaches.

10:00 a.m. Motorcoaches arrive ready for loading. Students are grouped by grade level on two deluxe motorcoaches.

11:00 a.m. Depart from GWMS aboard a deluxe, restroom-equipped motorcoach.

12:30 p.m. En route, enjoy lunch at individual expense in the food court at the Virginia Center Commons Mall. (VA Center Commons Mall: 10102 Brook Rd., Glen Allen, VA 23059; (804) 266-9000; from 95 S – exit 86B onto Route 1, Brook Rd., Glen Allen, VA.)

1:30 p.m. Depart lunch stop for Williamsburg.

3:00 p.m. Arrive at the *George Washington Inn & Conference Center* located at 500 Merrimac Trail, Williamsburg, VA 23158 and **check in** (800-804-6835). Change into band uniforms.

4:30 p.m. Depart the hotel for *Bruton High School*. (Bruton HS: 185 East Rochambeau Dr., Williamsburg, 757-220-4050)

5:40 p.m. Concert Band warm-up.

6:05 p.m. Concert Band plays.

6:05 p.m. Symphonic Band warm-up.

6:30 p.m. Symphonic Band plays.

7:00 p.m. Boxed dinner.

7:30 p.m. Depart for hotel

8:00 p.m. Arrive at the hotel; check into rooms and get settled.

8:30-10:00 p.m. Pool time. Bring your own towel. **THERE IS NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY; GROUP MEMBERS SWIM AT THEIR OWN RISK; GWMS CHAPERONES WILL BE SUPERVISING THE POOL.**

Students will be either in the pool area or in their rooms. There is no wandering around the hotel or outside of the building.

10:00 p.m. Students return to rooms. Pizza delivery.

10:30 p.m. Room check and lock down. Students must be in their assigned rooms at this time.

11:00 p.m. Lights out, TV off. **There is a noise ordinance in Williamsburg!**

DAY TWO: Saturday, May 14, 2011

7:00 a.m. Wake up. Clean room, pack, wait to be called to breakfast.

8:00 a.m. Enjoy a buffet breakfast at the hotel. Students will be sent to breakfast in groups of 20-30 for seating reasons.

9:30 a.m. Check out from the hotel and board motorcoaches. Students will be dismissed from their respective rooms after an acceptable room inspection by a chaperone.

Students must wear their GWMS band tee-shirts on Saturday to *Busch Gardens*.

10:00 a.m. Arrive at *Busch Gardens*. Enjoy the park! Meals throughout the day are available from a variety of moderately priced eateries and are at individual expense.

1:00 p.m. Check in with the Band Director/Chaperones at the Mist Bridge into Ireland.

4:15 p.m. Check in with the Band Director/Chaperones outside the Royal Palace Theatre for the *Music in the Parks* competition results.

5:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony at the Royal Palace Theater

5:30 p.m. Last chance for shopping/eating.

6:30 p.m. Board motorcoaches for the return trip. **Students MUST return to GWMS on the motorcoach.**

9:30 p.m. Arrive at *George Washington Middle School*, Alexandria. Arrival time is approximate and depends on weather and traffic.

CONTACT INFO:

Ellen Bradley, Band Trip Coordinator
Cell 703-869-7106
ellensammonbradley@gmail.com

Deborah Lockett, Band Trip Coordinator
debo@tindell.net

Rick Seracino, Band Director
GWMS Band Room 703-706-4545
rseracin@acps.k12.va.us

Deborah Schoemer, GWMS Nurse
Cell 703-402-9380

George Washington Inn & Conference Ctr.
500 Merrimac Trail
Williamsburg, VA 23185
757-220-1410

Music in the Parks
888-323-0974

Virginia Center Commons Mall
10102 Brook Rd.
Glen Allen, VA 23059
804-266-9000

Bruton High School
185 East Rochumbeau Dr.
Williamsburg, VA 23188
757-220-4050

Info on the Spring Band Trip is available on the GWMS Band Boosters email.

If you have not already joined, please visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GWMSBandboosters>