

Instruction - Field Trips and Out-of-Country Educational Trips

Field trips

Field trips are permissible when the experiences are an integral part of the school curriculum and/or contribute to the District's educational goals.

All field trips must have the Superintendent or designee's prior approval, except that field trips beyond a 200-mile radius of the school or extending overnight must have the prior approval of the Board. The following factors are analyzed when determining whether to approve a field trip: educational value, student safety, parent concerns, heightened security alerts, and liability concerns. On all field trips, a bus fee set by the Superintendent or designee may be charged to help defray the transportation costs.

Parents/guardians of students: (1) shall be given the opportunity to consent to their child's participation in any field trip, and (2) may be responsible for all entrance fees, food, lodging, or other costs, except that the District will pay such costs for students who qualify for free or reduced school lunches. All non-participating students shall be provided an alternative experience. Any field trip may be cancelled without notice due to danger to students, staff, or chaperons. Monies deposited may be forfeited.

Out-of-Country Educational trips

Educators may request that the Board of Education approve out-of-country educational trips for students. In considering these requests, the Board of Education will evaluate

1. the educational value of the trip,
2. student safety and/or heightened security alerts,
3. parental concerns,
4. liability concerns,
5. the quality and references of the educational travel providers,
6. whether additional student accident insurance is available for parents/guardians to purchase

Such educational trips will be viewed as opportunities for educational enrichment made available, but not required of students. All funding for out-of-country educational trips will be the private responsibility of students and their parents. This means that fundraisers

1. will not be affiliated with the Eastland CUSD #308
2. will not be conducted on school premises, or at school events
3. will not solicit donations from local (in-district) businesses
4. will not solicit donations from district support groups

Out-of-country educational trips will not be conducted during the school year, and trips will be limited to no more than one (1) every two years. Parents/guardians of students choosing to participate in an out-of-country educational trip will attend a mandatory orientation meeting and will sign a waiver indemnifying the District.

Staff members who petition the Board for the opportunity to organize and chaperone an out-of-country educational trip for students will present a proposal to the Board of Education Curriculum Committee at least 12 months prior to the requested date of the trip. The Curriculum Committee will present a recommendation to the Board of Education for approval or denial of the trip, and the petitioner will have an opportunity to present his/her proposal to the Board of Education as a whole.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.30, and 5/24-24.

CROSS REF.: 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students)

APPROVED: 12/17/03

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