



North High School Green Brigade

July 7, 2011

Dear Green Brigade Member and Parents,

Through a recommendation from Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel, I am very pleased to announce that our group has been invited to perform and represent the State of Indiana in the **2012 National Independence Day Parade in Washington, D.C!** This is a tremendous honor and once-in-a-lifetime educational opportunity for our students. After discussing this event with the students and sending preliminary information to you, we have now formed a committee that is helping to make plans and set goals for our participation. In addition to offering this performance and trip opportunity to current North High School Green Brigade members, the invitation will be extended to this year's North Jr. High 8th grade band members and their families. We have asked Mr. Jim Ashby, from Taylor Tours, to help design our trip. This will be a 6-day trip from July 1 to July 6, 2012. In addition to our participation in the Independence Day Parade, Concert and Fireworks, this outstanding trip will include:

- an experienced Taylor Tours Travel Director to accompany us
- three nights hotel accommodations in the Washington D.C. area
- admissions to Newseum, Ford's Theatre, Holocaust Museum, and National Archives.
- sightseeing at the Capitol Building, White House Tour (on acceptance), Library of Congress, Smithsonian Museums, Memorials (Lincoln, Vietnam, Korean, FDR, Jefferson, Kennedy Center, Iwo Jima, World War II), Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Transportation will be by professional motor coaches. Room occupancy is four students to a room and as selected by adults. Similar to our recent Florida trip, we will have private hotel security, a special tour booklet, travel bag, luggage tags, and tour briefing by Taylor Tours. The cost of the trip will include transportation, all admissions and fees, an emergency medical insurance policy, and the SYTA consumer protection plan. As you can see by the proposed itinerary, most meals will also be provided.

Proposed Itinerary

Day One (Sunday, July 1): Travel overnight

Day Two (Monday, July 2): Buffet breakfast enroute; visits to Newseum, Air and Space Museum (meal coupon included), Ford's Theatre; souvenir shopping; dinner at Hard Rock Café; hotel check-in.

Day Three (Tuesday, July 3): Buffet breakfast at hotel; White House photo stop; Capitol Tour; Lunch at Fashion Center Mall in Pentagon City; visits to Memorials and sightseeing; dinner At Buca Di Beppo; Illumination Tour of the Memorials, back to hotel; rehearsal at hotel

Day Four (Wednesday, July 4): Buffet breakfast at hotel; National Independence Day Parade; box lunch; Holocaust Museum; National Archives; Dinner voucher at Union Station; National 4th of July Concert; view Fireworks in Washington D.C., return to hotel

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Day Five (Thursday, July 5): Buffet breakfast at hotel and checkout; Arlington Cemetery; Group Photo; Lunch voucher at the Reagan Building; travel to the Smokey Glen Farm; buffet dinner, games, and hayride; depart for home

Day Six (Friday, July 6): \$7.00 cash for fast food breakfast enroute; arrive home

As part of our committee's plans, we have set the price at a maximum cost of \$800.00 per travelling member. Each student will have the opportunity to raise their money through various planned fundraisers that we are establishing throughout the coming school year. In addition, the total cost of the trip will be divided out according to the schedule of payments listed below. Also, because of the nature of this trip, we will be seeking community support and corporate sponsorships that we feel will eventually lower the total cost per travelling member. Considering that this price includes transportation, admissions, hotel lodging and most meals, the tour package listed is a *fantastic* value for all that we get to see and do!

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| September 1 | - \$100.00 non-refundable deposit due |
| October 1 | - \$100.00 due |
| November 1 | - \$100.00 due |
| January 2 | - \$100.00 due |
| February 1 | - \$100.00 due |
| March 1 | - \$100.00 due |
| April 1 | - \$100.00 |
| May 1 | - \$100.00 balance due (<i>reminder: amounts may decrease through sponsors</i>) |

I will be contacting local media soon to share the exciting details of our participation in the National Independence Day Parade. This will be a memorable event that I'm sure we all will take pride in preparing for!

Sincerely,

Steve Shelley

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