

## **ORLANDO Trip - April 3-8, 2025**

Dear Students and Parents:

The time is fast approaching to pack a suitcase and begin our exciting trip to sunny Orlando, FL! We know this will be a wonderful educational experience and a great deal of fun. Please take a moment to organize your plans for the trip. Here is some information that should help.

### **Required Paperwork**

All trip participants must complete the following Forms:

1. Tour Drug and Alcohol Policy -
2. Field Trip Form/Individual Medical Information Form - everyone should have received this form via Parent/Student Square

All forms must be completed **NO LATER THAN Friday, March 21, 2025.**

### **Chaperones**

**ALL CHAPERONES MUST HAVE COMPLETED AN FBI/BCI BACKGROUND CHECK THROUGH THE DISTRICT.**

Chaperones are here to help you. They will do whatever they can to make the trip as enjoyable for you as possible. Talk to them, listen to them, and cooperate with them. Be respectful of them; don't be rude or disobedient. If you have a problem with a chaperone, please talk it over with Mrs. Olis or Mr. Stanley before you say or do something that might cause you to be sent home early.

They will be there all the time, wherever students go during the trip. They will help with the rules and guidelines set by the directors. They will also help conduct room checks at night. Chaperones can help you in many ways, but remember, they are not there to carry your instruments, your luggage, or band equipment.

There are 45 band/orchestra members and 6 Adult Chaperones (51 travelers total) for our Orlando trip including the following chaperones. Note: More phone numbers will be shared prior to departure:

Jennifer Olis – Band Director  
Thomas Stanley - Orchestra Director  
Katie Branum - Ben's (saxophone) mom  
Jeanne Bussell - Ben's (saxophone) grandma  
Jennifer Kinsinger - Ella's (drumline) mom  
David Schmied - Lucas's (clarinet) dad

### **Illness**

Please report any illness to a chaperone or director immediately. Also seek help with any Disney staff member and they can assist with getting you to first aid who can then get in contact with Mrs. Olis and Mr. Stanley.

## **Luggage**

Please bring only one suitcase, your instrument case, and a carry-on bag for inside the motor coach. Remember, we must be able to fit everything we take and bring back on the motor coach. Pack your carry-on bag with needed toiletries as well as your clothes that you would like to change into Friday morning (First day in the park after traveling all night. We will not get into the hotel until that night.). Plan to re-pack that same carry-on to have for Tuesday morning on our bus ride back to Ohio (to freshen up before breakfast).

## **Clothes**

For the parks, bring casual clothes – jeans, shirts, shorts, jacket. The weather in Orlando, FL this time of the year is warm during the day (80's) and cooler at night (50-60's). It is recommended that you bring a layering of clothes so that you will be warm if it is cool and may remove outer garments if it is warm. Remember to bring comfortable walking shoes. Consider a lightweight rain jacket as storms can pop up in Florida at any given time. Don't pack an article of clothing that might be considered controversial, vulgar, or inappropriate in any way.

**MARCHING BAND ATTIRE** – Please make sure your suitcase is loaded with your band uniform pants, uniform jacket, hat, marching band shoes, long white socks, and gloves.

## **General Behavior**

- The success of this trip, as well as the possibility of future trips, rests largely on your general behavior. Cooperate with one another. Be courteous and respectful to each other and to everyone else you meet. You are young adults visiting another city. Represent your family and school communities of Grandview well, with good manners and a positive friendly attitude.\
- Language – no profane, rude, offensive, or abusive language, gestures, etc. will be allowed.
- Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco - There will be none. Possession or use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco is contrary to Grandview Heights Schools policy on any school activity. This is an officially sanctioned school trip approved by the Principal and Grandview Heights Board of Education. Violation of the policy at any time on this trip will result in certain disciplinary action. The policy will be strictly enforced. There will be no exceptions. There will be no second chances. Don't even think about it.

## **Personal Property**

The school, band, band directors, and chaperones will not be responsible for any personal property lost or stolen on the trip (such as audio equipment, jewelry, luggage, clothing, wallets, etc.). It is recommended that you bring a string backpack to keep items like this in.

## **On The Motor Coach**

- The time schedule is very tight on this trip. We are trying to do and see a lot. There is one coach bus for this trip and it will be ours throughout the trip. Please be on time for departures. Obey all rules and instructions from the directors, chaperones, coach driver, and tour guide.
- Only those students and adults on the official trip roster will be allowed on the coaches.
- Please remain in your seats when the coach is moving (unless you are going to and from the restroom), and keep all body parts (and other materials or objects) inside the coach. Only one person will be allowed for each seat on the coach and the seat you choose will be yours for the entire trip.

- The coach is close quarters. Please keep your voices down and avoid shouting, clapping, singing, and any other activity that might disturb others or the coach drivers.
- Smiles and friendly waves of greeting to those outside the coach are wonderful. However, shouts, gestures, and other more colorful attempts at communication from inside the coach to those outside the coach are prohibited.
- Don't overwhelm others on the coach with odor-producing products such as hair spray, perfumes, oils, finger nail polish, or cologne.
- When you get off the coach, leave it in the same or better condition than when you first boarded it at Grandview. While you're on the coach, help to keep it as clean as possible because you'll spend a lot of time in any mess you make.
- Don't leave the coach without permission and knowledge of the band directors and chaperones.
- Unless there is an emergency, don't tamper with or exit through any emergency exit without the permission of the motor coach driver, band directors, or chaperones.
- You may bring personal music devices, but please be considerate of others with your music. The coach is no place for sharing your music broadly with others. You must use your headphones at all times. The director or chaperones reserve the right to help provide peace and quiet for others by regulating the use of personal sound machines (which always includes your voices).
- The motor coaches are equipped with DVD players with monitors. You may bring dvd's from home to watch on the trip if they have ratings of "G", "PG", or "PG-13". No "R" or "UR" videos will be allowed. Videos may be censored/stopped at the discretion of the band directors and chaperones.
- A lights out and no noise policy will be in effect on the motor coach between midnight and daybreak while traveling.
- Physical displays of affection will not be allowed. Pillows and blankets will be allowed on the coach, but heads and hands must be visible to chaperones and directors at all times.

### **While In the Park(s)**

- Remember that you represent our school, band program, your family and the community. Always be aware of what you say and how you act. ALWAYS STAY IN GROUPS OF 3 OR MORE. If you do not ALWAYS follow this rule, you will spend the rest of your day with a chaperone not having fun.
- Once in a park, stay in the park for the day. Exiting the park for any reason is not allowed.
- There will be set times of the day that your group must send a "Selfie Photo Text" to your assigned chaperone. This is our way of knowing that you are doing okay. More info to come. DO NOT LET ANYONE WONDER OFF FROM YOUR GROUP (e.g. If the student needs to stop at the restroom, then everyone stops at the restroom).
- Plan your day out in such a way that you can work your meal plans and attractions together. Make smart decisions. (e.g. Do not get in line for a ride that has a 2 hour wait when you know you have to meet Mrs. Olis and Mr. Stanley on the other side of the park for the parade warm up).

### **Incidentals/Other Things To Bring**

- A phone charger. There are outlets on the buses. A portable phone charge (for in the park)
- A watch so you can stay on schedule. Phone with Alarm setting
- Bathroom articles
- Sunglasses and hat
- Sunscreen
- A lightweight rain jacket.
- A drawstring backpack and water bottle. This is essential when in the parks.
- Something to do on the motor coach, such as a good book, game, music player, homework, etc. Any necessary medications and/or written prescriptions.
- Pillows, Blanket, etc
- A musical instrument, along with reeds, mouthpieces, sticks, mallets, neck straps, etc. Music.

### **Spending and Meal Money**

Most breakfasts and dinners are included in this trip. All other meals will be on your own. We highly encourage students to pack snacks for your hotel room. Some meals (mostly lunches) inside the parks will be on your own and can be quite pricey. Students are responsible for 2 breakfast meals, 5 lunches, and 1 dinner. We would suggest a minimum of \$150-200 for food alone. You may want to bring some additional money for souvenirs and any incidental charges at the hotel.

You may want to safeguard your money by using loadable gift cards.

### **In the Hotel**

- Be orderly, courteous, and respectful of others at all times in the hotel as well as elsewhere on the trip.
- Keep your room locked whenever all the students assigned to the room are in or out.
- Keep noise down in the hallways. Do not raise your voice or run.
- The curfew time will be announced each night at the hotel. Curfew times will reflect hotel rules with consideration given to other guests and your own need for rest. At curfew each night, you should be in your room with only the other students assigned to your room, and be ready for a room check at the director's discretion.
- After curfew, no sounds should be generated in your room that can be heard outside your room, either through the door, walls, ceiling, or floor.
- No one should leave the room until the wake-up call the next morning. There will be a security guard on duty for just our students.
- There will be no male students allowed in rooms assigned to female students, and no female students in rooms assigned to male students. No exceptions. "Inter-gender conferences" may occur quietly in the hallway prior to curfew and in other places designated by the directors or chaperones.
- Know where the chaperones and directors rooms are in case you have a problem or emergency.
- There will most probably be one or two keys given to each room. Know who has the key for your room and where he/she is at all times.
- Safeguard your personal belongings at all times. Never leave money or valuable items laying on surfaces in the hotel room – put them out of sight in suitcases or drawers.
- You are responsible for your room. You will have to pay for any damage or missing items prior to checkout.

- Meals, sightseeing, rehearsals, performances, etc. are arranged on a definite schedule. You must be punctual. Be at the appointed place on time, dressed appropriately, and ready to go. Do not be late. Otherwise, either the group risks being late and missing a paid for event, or, you risk being left behind with a chaperone that is probably unhappy to miss a scheduled event.

### **Communications**

Emergency messages may be left at the hotel:

Courtyard by Marriott Orlando - Lake Buena Vista at Vista Centre  
8501 Palm Parkway, Orlando, Florida 32836  
407-239-6900

Students: if you are calling home, you must use your cell phone.

### **Performance/Clinic Locations**

The Grandview Heights Marching Band will perform on Saturday, April 5 at the Magic Kingdom March at 5:45 pm. The band and orchestra will participate in the Disney Imagination Campus Soundtrack Sessions Workshop on Sunday, April 6 at 2:00pm.

### **Souvenirs**

Any and all souvenirs brought home from the trip must be paid for and must be of a nature that will be convenient to carry home on the motor coaches.

### **Equipment**

Remember to bring your instrument, uniform, any sticks/mallets you need, reeds, valve oil, slide oil, etc.

### **Disciplinary Action**

Violation of these rules and guidelines will result in whatever disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the director(s) up to and possibly including sending the student home by common carrier at the expense of the student's parents/guardians.

### **Extra Hints**

- BE RESPECTFUL
- Your chaperones are responsible for a large number of you. Don't ask for special favors that cannot be granted for the whole group.
- Always show courtesy and consideration for all others traveling with you and those you meet along the way.
- Get plenty of sleep at night. You will need the rest.
- Being on a trip like this adds stress to your life. Eat sensibly – 3 meals a day – and drink plenty of water.
- Watch the clock – ALWAYS BE ON TIME – plan ahead.
- Sometimes it is necessary to make last minute changes in the itinerary – be flexible, be patient, and be cheerful.

Looking forward to a wonderful trip full of great memories.  
Mrs. Olis and Mr. Stanley