



**Annual Grade 8 Tour Packet:
New York City & Philadelphia**

June 4th - June 7th 2024

New York City & Philadelphia 2024

ITINERARY

June 4– June 7, 2024

The New York/Philadelphia class trip will take place in June. Buses depart from WMS on Tuesday, June 4, 2023 at 7:00 AM and return to WMS the evening of Friday, June 7, 2024.

This comprehensive tour of New York City & Philadelphia is very well chaperoned. The 2024 trip includes the following, although there may be some changes.

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

7:00 AM Hop aboard your locally chartered luxury motorcoach, get comfortable and get ready for your adventure! Stops and lunch en route (at individual expense).

12:30 PM You're now officially in New York! The Big Apple! The City that Never Sleeps! Enjoy an orientation walk through the Financial District with your tour leader to discover the heart of the American economy! See the Charging Bull, Trinity Church, the World Trade Center, Wall Street, the Federal Reserve and more! There will be time to grab a quick lunch if necessary as well.

3:00 PM Take in the views from the panoramic observatory of THE tallest building in New York: the One World Trade Center.

5:00 PM Explore all of the lights and sounds of New York's one and only Times Square.

6:00 PM Enjoy dinner followed by arcade time at Dave & Buster's (includes a \$20 power card.)

8:30 PM Departure for the hotel.

9:30 PM Arrive at the hotel and unload the motorcoach. Hang in there a few more minutes as your tour leader gives you instructions for proper hotel conduct and for the next day full of exciting activities! Spend the night at the Meadowlands Plaza Hotel. 40 Wood Ave, Secaucus, NJ

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

8:00 AM Breakfast and orientation session at the hotel with your tour leader.

9:00 AM Everybody ready? Time to head out for your activities! Your tour leader will fill you in on all the fun that's in store. All aboard! Next stop: Philadelphia!

11:00 AM Begin your self-guided visit to the National Constitution Center, where interactive exhibits and national town hall for constitutional dialogue bring the United States Constitution to life.

12:30 PM Time for lunch (at individual expense) and to explore Reading Terminal Market, a unique and extraordinary historic farmers market in Center City Philadelphia!

2:15 PM Group 1 (77 total): Audio tour of America's most historic prison: Eastern State Penitentiary. Visit its vaulted, sky-lit cells that once held many of America's most notorious criminals, including bank robber "Slick Willie" Sutton and Al Capone. Group 2 (77 total): Once you've dropped off your friends at the Eastern State Penitentiary, make your way to Recreate Rocky Balboa's Oscar-winning performance as you run up the stairs of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

3:15 PM Group 2 (77 total): Audio tour of America's most historic prison: Eastern State Penitentiary. Visit its vaulted, sky-lit cells that once held many of America's most notorious criminals, including bank robber "Slick Willie" Sutton and Al Capone.

4:00 PM Group 1 (77 total); Recreate Rocky Balboa's Oscar-winning performance as you run up the stairs of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

5:30 PM Dinner at Philly's Gourmet Steak then enjoy a walk through Old Philadelphia.

8:30 PM Depart for the Hotel

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Thursday, June 6, 2024

7:30 AM Breakfast and orientation session at the hotel with your tour leader.

8:30 AM Everybody ready? Time to head out for your activities!

9:30 AM While in New York, Central Park is a must-see! Your tour leader will show you some of its main highlights, that may include the Bethesda Fountain, Strawberry Fields, the Pond, or the Alice in Wonderland statue.

11:00 AM Visit the snow leopards, the penguins, the boas and the many other beautiful animals found in the heart of the Big Apple, at the Central Park Zoo!

12:30 PM Create your own lunch (at individual expense) at the Whole Foods Market located in the Time Warner Center on Columbus Circle.

2:00 PM Travel from the ancient past to the distant future during your self-guided visit of the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

4:00 PM Depart for the hotel to get changed before your dinner dance cruise

6:30 PM It's already time to line up for the boat cruise! How excited are you?!

7:00 PM Sail away aboard the Spirit of New York for a dinner and dance cruise! Your DJ will play all the latest and greatest hits; you'll bust a move, make new friends, and you'll admire the Big Apple's skyline in all its glory.

10:00 PM Departure for the hotel.

Friday, June 7, 2024

7:00 AM Breakfast and orientation session at the hotel with your tour leader.

8:15 AM You won't believe it, but the time has come...for your last day of this fantastic journey! Time to leave the hotel with your luggage and take advantage of today to say goodbye to these foreign lands.

9:00 AM Line up at Liberty State Park in New Jersey and hop on to your boat to go discover the beauty and history of the Statue of Liberty and the Immigration Museum of Ellis Island. Have lunch on site (at individual expense).

12:30 PM It's time to bid farewell to NYC. You've seen and done so much, yet you've only scratched the surface. This is definitely a city that's best experienced over many, many visits. Until next time!

6:00 PM This is when you're expected to arrive back at your school, where your family and friends will be eager to hear all about your adventure!



DATES TO REMEMBER

1. Friday, March 8, 2024

Turn in **ALL** of the following forms to the box in the office:

- Permission Slip form
- Rules and Regulations acknowledgment form
- Student contact and Health Information form
- Medication policies, Procedures and Consent form
- Medical administration details form (if meds are required)
- **Partner/Roommate Request Form** - should go in a separate box in the office stapled together with your roommates request forms as well.

Keep for reference:

- Dates to remember
- Rules and regulations
- Medication instruction form

Partner request forms must be stapled together in groups of two, three or four. If you do not have a group of four, but have a partner, staple the two forms together and pass that in. Even if you do not have a partner or group, a sheet with your name must be passed in. **WE WILL PLACE THOSE WITHOUT PARTNERS TOGETHER.**

2. Wednesday, May 22, 2024

(Students during the day - Parents at 6:00 p.m.)

Mandatory meeting for all travelers and parents/guardians. At this meeting, you will receive the final itinerary, emergency contact information, review of the rules and guidelines, and much more!

- ## **3. Friday, May 24, 2024 Medications are due to the school nurse and must be brought in by a parent.**
- Please see attached forms for medication guidelines and procedures. Medications are not accepted on the day of departure. If medications change before the trip please contact Mrs. McNamee the school nurse to update the medical form. carol.mcnamee@whrsd.org or 781-618-7035

Keep Sheet for reference.

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PERMISSION SLIP

Please print name

Student Name: _____

The student above has my permission to attend the New York City & Philadelphia field trip to be held June 4– June 7, 2024. I have read and reinforced all the rules and regulations with my son/daughter. My signature gives permission for my student to attend. In addition, my signature acknowledges that as a parent/guardian, I will encourage my student to meet all requirements for the trip outlined Rules and Regulation below.

Insurance for payments made is available for students who may need to cancel reservations (please contact Jump Street).

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARTNER REQUEST FORM

All information on this sheet must be completed and signed by a parent.

If a student does not have a partner/roommate or if a pair of students do not have a second pair for their roommates, please leave the appropriate sections blank.

When the forms are returned, all students rooming together must have their forms stapled together. If this is not done, the forms will not be accepted.

PARTNER REQUEST

STUDENT NAME: _____

PARTNER: _____

*Students will share a bed with their partner

ROOM REQUEST

The following four students would like to room together:

Pair 1

Pair 2

1. _____

1. _____

2. _____

2. _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT

I approve of my child's choice of partner/roommates.

I understand that if my son/daughter does not have a partner/roommates at the present time then he/she will be paired with a student from the list of available students. If a student becomes ineligible for the trip, student's partner/roommate groups may change. Students and guardians will be notified prior to the trip. The final determination on room assignments will be made by the administration.

Parent/guardian signature _____

Once the roommates are chosen their names are sent to the hotel through Jump Street where they are assigned rooms. For security reasons, the hotel does not allow changes to be made.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Each student must behave in such a way as to be a good representative of his family, school, & community.

Expectations of students during the trip include:

1. No alcoholic beverages, drugs, or tobacco products will be tolerated. No questionable attire will be allowed.
2. The time schedule must be followed at all times. Tardiness will not be tolerated.
3. Students must travel in assigned buses and remain with their designated chaperones.
4. No one will change rooms without permission. A room check will be made every evening. No one will leave his or her room after "lights out."
5. No one will be allowed in any other person's room except when permission is granted.
6. As guests of the hotel, respect for property and other guests is expected. Students are responsible for their conduct in regards to both public and private property, such as lodging accommodations and transportation vehicles. Rooms must be kept relatively clean. Students are equally responsible for any damage to the room and will share monetary costs.
7. No one will use room telephones unless contacting a chaperone or having prior permission.
8. All bus regulations must be followed at all times.
9. Students will be representing Whitman Middle School and will be expected to act respectfully and responsibly at all times.
10. Students will be responsible for any and all spending money.
11. Full cooperation is expected at all times in order for all to enjoy the most rewarding learning experience. Students will be respectful and follow the directions of chaperones and tour guides.
12. Students must limit their baggage to one suitcase and one carryon piece. Rooms and luggage can be checked at any time.
13. Each room sleeps four people – two students to a queen size bed.
14. Students will obey lights out rule – generally at 11:00PM
15. The buddy system must be followed at all times.
16. All medications must be held by chaperones. If a student is found with any medication he/she will face severe discipline which could include suspension from school upon the return from NYC.
17. Shoplifting cases will be handled by the local police.
18. If a student hazes, fights with, threatens, or in any way harms or intimidates another student or staff member, he/she may be sent home at the parents' expense.
19. Parents can be called anytime of the day or night if a student is experiencing or causing a problem. The parent may be asked to provide transport home for the student.
20. Disciplinary action that can range from "grounding" on the trip to loss of future school privileges and/or suspension can result from failure to follow the rules.
21. Students will abide by the cell phone/electronics policy outlined in the WMS student handbook.

Keep Sheet for reference.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Acknowledgement Form

If, on the NYC/Philadelphia trip, a student violates an established rule or policy, the chaperones in charge have the responsibility of disciplining the student using the following guidelines:

- a. If the violation occurs prior to the trip, the student will not be allowed to participate. Consultation with the administration will determine the final action.
- b. If the violation occurs while the trip is in progress, the student is to be notified immediately of his/her actions and parents will be called and informed of the incident. Parents may be asked to make arrangements for the student's return home.
- c. If, in the judgment of the chaperones, a situation is totally unacceptable, parents will be notified and arrangements will be made to transport the student home at the parents' expense.
- d. If a student is using a cell phone/device in ways found inappropriate by any chaperone, the device will be confiscated. The amount of time will be determined by the chaperones.

We have read the above rules and agree to abide by these regulations.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

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WMS 8TH GRADE TRIP

STUDENT CONTACT AND HEALTH INFORMATION(to be turned in)

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Student Cell Phone # (If Applicable): _____

Address: _____

Parent/Guardian contact Information:

Name	Phone number
_____	_____
_____	_____

In case of emergency please list 3 responsible adults with phone numbers to contact if we are unable to reach you.

Name	Phone number
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Health Insurance Policy Name: _____

Health Insurance Policy Number: _____

Are there any health problems or history that we should be aware of? Please list everything: the nurse going on the trip may not know all of your child's previous medical history.

Please provide details:

Food allergies: _____

Has an epipen been prescribed? _____

Food sensitivities and/or particular diet: _____

Environmental/seasonal allergies: _____

Allergy to medications: _____

Motion sickness: _____

Is there any additional information we should know?

I give permission to the nurse or chaperone in charge to seek emergency treatment for my son/daughter.

Parent/Guardian signature

Date

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MEDICATION POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND CONSENT:

ALL Parents/Guardians complete this form and turn it in.

STUDENT NAME: _____ **DATE OF BIRTH:** _____

Students may not be in possession of any medications, including prescription and over the counter medications, except for inhalers, epinephrine (see below) and diabetic supplies.

ACETAMINOPHEN (TYLENOL), IBUPROFEN (ADVIL), DIPHENHYDRAMINE (BENADRYL) and DIMENHYDRINATE (DRAMAMINE): the nurse will have these to administer as needed. Do not send these with your child.

Please indicate below if you allow your child to have these medications administered as needed on this trip. I will not hold the nurse in charge responsible for any problems that may arise.

___ I ALLOW my child to have Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, Diphenhydramine and Dimenhydrinate.

___ I DO NOT give permission for Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, Diphenhydramine and Dimenhydrinate.

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

EPINEPHRINE AND/OR INHALERS will be packed and carried by your child at all times. They are not kept with the nurse. Please make sure they have a small bag (like a string backpack) with them for this purpose.

****Even when the tour guides instruct them that bags are kept on the bus, these students should still be bringing their bags with them everywhere so we always have access to their medication!!****

___ My child has an inhaler. Name of medication in the inhaler and dose: _____

___ My child has emergency epinephrine for the following allergy: _____

I request that my child be permitted to carry on his/her person their inhaler and/or epinephrine) that has been prescribed. I have made certain that their medication has not expired. My child understands the purpose, appropriate method, frequency and use of their medication. My child is responsible and accountable for carrying and using their medication. My child understands that if they self administer this medication while on the 8th grade trip that they will inform the school nurse or closest adult immediately. It is understood that if there is irresponsible behavior or safety risk, the privilege of carrying their medication will be rescinded.

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

A FEW SUGGESTIONS:

- This is a very active trip with lots of walking: comfortable shoes are a must.
- Refillable water bottle
- Sunblock, sunglasses, hat
- Menstrual products just in case
- String bag/backpack(for phone, water, snack, inhalers/epipens, etc)

Please call or email with any questions or concerns.

Carol McNamee, M.Ed., BSN, BA Whitman Middle School Nurse 781-618-7035 carol.mcnamee@whrsd.org

MEDICATION INSTRUCTION FORM:

REFER TO THIS FORM IF YOUR CHILD HAS MEDICATION(S) (PRESCRIPTION AND/OR OVER THE COUNTER) TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE NURSE.

*Excluding epipens and inhalers. Students pack and bring those on their own. See previous page.

KEEP THIS PAGE SO YOU ARE AWARE OF THE INSTRUCTIONS and DUE DATES.

A nurse will be on the trip and will be responsible for storing and dispensing all medication(except epipens, inhalers which stay with the student at all times). Medications that are not listed cannot be administered.

- **MEDICATIONS ARE DUE ON 5/24/24. THE MEDICATION AND THE FOLLOWING FORM HAVE TO BE BROUGHT IN BY THE PARENT/GUARDIAN and GIVEN DIRECTLY TO THE NURSE. THEY ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BE BROUGHT IN BY THE STUDENT. MEDICATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED ON THE DAY OF DEPARTURE.**
- Prescription medications have to be in their original, pharmacy labeled container. Over the counter medications have to be in their original packaging. Place these original medication containers inside a ziplock bag. Label the ziplock bag with the student's name, date of birth, the name of the medication, the dosage, and time/directions for administration. The medication cannot be expired.
- Only the amount of medication needed for the duration of the trip should be in the container. Do not send more than is needed. Any unused medication and/or bottles will not be returned to you. On the day of departure, 6/4, the student should take all morning medication at home. On 6/7, the nurse will give only the AM meds because the student will be home in the evening.

6/4	6/5	6/6	6/7
PM	AM/PM	AM/PM	AM only

*For example, a student with only PM meds would have 3 doses provided. A student with AM meds would have 3 doses provided.

- Timing of medication administration: During this trip, we leave the hotel right after breakfast and are not back until 8-10PM. Unless absolutely necessary, all medication will be given in the AM(7-8AM) and/or PM(8-10PM). Please contact the nurse if administration is necessary outside of these times.
- For certain medications, the nurse may require a doctor's letter or order.
- **DAILY ROUTINE for MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION:**
Please review with your child. Students will be given the nurse room number and are responsible for coming to the room before, during or after breakfast and/or after dinner when we return to the hotel. **They need to bring water/beverage with them to take the medication.** We will find them if they do not come, but they should take responsibility for when they need to take medications.

Please call or email with any questions or concerns.

Carol McNamee, M.Ed., BSN, BA

Whitman Middle School Nurse 781-618-7035 carol.mcnamee@whrsd.org

