**MILTON HIGH SCHOOL BAND TRIP 2019**

***Atlanta & the Great Smoky Mountains***

Greetings from the MHS Bandroom! This packet includes important information regarding this year’s Spring Band Trip to Atlanta, GA and the Great Smoky Mountains. Remember that these trips are optional…they are simply a “play hard” portion of our band year. Please review the information below and respond if your student WILL or WILL NOT be attending the trip by September 21. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me. Thanks.

 Gray Weaver

 Milton HS Director of Bands

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**TRIP DATES – Wednesday, January 2 through Monday, January 7** --- We will be taking this trip at the very end of our Christmas break so that our kids won’t be missing any school. Hopefully, we will see some snow and our students will be able to enjoy the holiday spirit of the Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge area during this time. School will be resuming on Tuesday, January 8 to begin our 2nd semester…so again, no school will be missed!

**CHARTER BUSES & HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS –** We are currently working to secure contracts with companies for our Band Trip. The current plan is for us to be transported by Gulf Coast Tours charter buses *(all buses are 2014 or newer)* and our hotel accommodations will be for one night in Atlanta and at the Inn on the River for four nights in Pigeon Forge, TN. Students will stay four per room and adults usually stay two per room.

**INCLUDED IN THE COST OF THE TRIP -**Charter Bus Transportation, Hotel Accommodations for 5 nights *(4 students per room / 2 adults per room)*, Admission Ticket and Buffet Lunch at Six Flags Over Georgia, Snow Tubing *(if available)*, Scenic Drive over top of Smoky Mtns *(Newfound Gap),*Dollywood Theme Park admission & meal ticket, Dinner at Dolly Parton’s Stampede Dinner Show, another Dinner Show in the Pigeon Forge area, Trolley tickets for Free-time on the Pigeon Forge Strip, Ripley’s Aquarium of the Smokies, another selected Ripley’s Attraction, Two Hot Meals per day provided *(note that some may already be listed above)*, Aerial Tram Ride to OberGatlinburg Adventure Park, Fun Times.

**NOT INCLUDED IN THE COST OF THE TRIP -**One meal per day, souvenirs, possible one day excursions in Smoky Mtns *(tour of Cades Cove - $15; mountain hike & lunch - $10; more free time in Pigeon Forge - $5)*, other spending money for snacks & such.

**PRICING & RECOMMENDED PAYMENT PLAN –** Total cost for the trip is expected to be **$475 to $525 per person**… depending on the number of participants. Again, this includes transportation, hotel accommodations, nine attractions, and twelve meals during the six travel days. I believe that we have worked to produce a trip that is very cost efficient…it would be very difficult to visit Atlanta and the Smoky Mountains for this amount per person on your own. The recommended payment plan is as follows:

 *September 21 - $50 non-refundable deposit + trip intention form*

 *October 19 - $100 payment*

 *November 16 - $100 payment*

 *December 19 - Remaining Balance Due ($250ish)*

 ***Please Note:*** *The only firm dates on the payment plan is the first date (September 21) to reserve your spot and*

*the last date (December 19) to pay off the balance. We do ask that the student’s Fair-Share is also paid in full no later than December 19. Thanks.*

**WHO CAN GO? –** This trip is open to any student currently enrolled in a band class at Milton High School who is in good standing. Parents & Family members of our students may also attend at the same price listed above. All siblings must be accompanied by the parent who is asked to room with them and be responsible for them during the entire trip. It is recommended that you refrain from bringing small children. Parents/Adults who attend are expected to help chaperone and must complete the appropriate Volunteer Form for the Santa Rosa County School District along with attending the Chaperone Trip Meeting(s).

***PROPOSED BAND TRIP ITINERARY 2019 – ATLANTA & SMOKY MTS***

**Wednesday, January 2**

     6:00 am-Meet at Bandroom

     6:30 am-Depart for Atlanta *(300 miles / 5 hours + time change)*

 12:00 pm-Arrive at Six Flags Over Georgia / Buffet Lunch or Meal Voucher *(meal included)* / Fun in Park

     9:00 pm-Park Closes / Head to Hotel *(Duluth-area…37 miles or 45 mins)*

   10:30 pm-Check into Hotel / Sleep

**Thursday, January 3**

     7:30 am-Breakfast at Hotel *(meal included)*

     8:30 am-Depart for Scaly Mountain Outdoor Center *(100 miles / 2 hours)*

   10:30 am-Arrive at Scaly Mountain / Snow Tubing!

     1:00 pm-Lunch at Dillard House *(meal included)*

     2:30 pm-Head to Pigeon Forge…over the mountains *(91 miles / 3 hours)*

     5:30 pm-Arrive at Hotel in Pigeon Forge / Check-In

     6:30 pm-Lumberjack Dinner Show *(meal included)*

**Friday, January 4**

     8:30 am-Breakfast at Hotel *(meal included)*

   10:30 am-Dollywood Theme Park all day *(opens at 11:00 am / closes at 9:00 pm)*

     Dinner-Meal Ticket at Dollywood *(meal included)*

**Saturday, January 5**

     7:00 am – Breakfast at Hotel *(meal included)*

 8:00 am-Excursion Day *(Cades Cove, Hike @ Laurel Falls, Fun on the Strip)*

     Evening-Dolly Parton’s Stampede Dinner Show *(meal included)*

**Sunday, January 6**

     7:30 am-Breakfast at Hotel *(meal included)*

     8:30 am-Depart for Gatlinburg

     All-Day-Visit OberGatlinburg / Ripley’s Attractions / Meet at Aquarium

 Buffet Dinner *(meal included)*

     Night-Comedy Barn Show

**Monday, January 7**

7:30 am-Breakfast at Hotel  *(meal included)*

     8:30 am-Check-Out / Depart for Milton *(500 miles / 8 hours + time change)*

     Lunch-Stop at Galleria Mall in Birmingham

     6:00 pm-Arrive back in Milton

***BAND TRIP 2019 INTENTION FORM FOR STUDENTS***

***(All Band Students are required to return this form by Friday, September 21)***

**Student Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade\_\_\_\_\_ Instrument\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***Yes, I have read the Trip Information Letter and I plan to attend the 2019 Milton High School Band Trip to Atlanta and the Great Smoky Mountains. I understand that if I wish to participate in this opportunity, I must have this form signed and returned by Friday, September 21.***

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 *Parent Signature Date*

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 *Student’s Signature Date*

***No thanks. I have read the Trip Information Letter and will NOT be attending the 2019 Milton High School Band Trip to Atlanta and the Great Smoky Mountains.***

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 *Parent Signature Date*

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 *Student’s Signature Date*

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***PARENT/FAMILY MEMBER INTENTION FORM – BAND TRIP 2019***

***(All Band Students are required to return this form by Friday, September 21)***

**Participant Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Student\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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 *Participant Signature Date*

**Participant Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Student\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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 *Participant Signature Date*

**Participant Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Student\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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 *Participant Signature Date*

**Participant Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Student\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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 *Participant Signature Date*