

Team 5 Washington D.C. Trip
Chaperone Responsibilities

Dear Parent/Guardian of our 8th Grade Students,

Thank you for accompanying us on the trip to Washington, D.C. It will be a long, busy day and we can't do it without your help.

Although we want you to have a good time, the primary reason that we are requesting that you make the trip is to help us to keep track of the students and to make sure that they are doing what they need to do to proudly represent the South Western School District.

Please become very familiar with the schedule which your student should have given you. We will follow it as closely as possible. Any delays could throw off from some major parts of the schedule.

Never let the students in your group out of your sight, or wander off to join other groups. Again one of the main reasons you are on the trip is to keep track of the students.

Chaperone Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

1. Attendance and Counts for their group of 2-4 people
2. Making sure individuals in their group of 2-4 stay in the group and keep up with the group
3. Making sure that their group of 2-4 is answering any "scavenger hunt" questions for which they are responsible
4. Reporting to Mr. Housch any student concerns/problems.

The South Western School District Transportation Department and its bus drivers want to make sure that especially when it is dark, no lights, or anything shiny is displayed that will distract the bus driver.

Dress code—Adults are exempt from the students' dress code, but I thought you might like to know what we are asking the kids to do. We are requiring our students to dress better than a normal school day. They must avoid wearing jeans, t-shirts, sweat pants, torn or damaged (intentional or not) clothing, and anything not normally allowed at school. Shoes comfortable for walking up to 2 miles on hilly ground are a good idea. Please dress to accommodate the weather.

Security checks are frequent and can be time consuming. Please minimize metal objects as much as possible. If you have a surgical metal device in your body that cannot be removed, please bring verification from your doctor.

White House tours are always a wild card. The Secret Service controls entrance to the White House, and their decisions are final. The White House may cancel or change tours without notice as required by the President's schedule.

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All White House visitors ages 18 years of age or older will be required to present government issued photo identification with information exactly matching the name previously submitted for clearance. Individuals whose information does not exactly match the name or data cleared for entry may be denied admittance.

White House **prohibited items** include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Video Recorders
- Handbags, book bags, backpacks or purses
- Food or beverages, tobacco products, personal grooming items (i.e. makeup, lotion, etc.)
- Strollers
- Any pointed objects
- Aerosol containers
- Guns, ammunition, fireworks, electric stun guns, mace, martial arts weapons/devices, or knives of any size

Smartphones and compact cameras with a lens no longer than 3 inches (stills only) are permitted on the public tour route as long as their use does not interfere with other guests' enjoyment of the tour.

Video cameras including any action camcorders, cameras with detachable lenses, tablets, tripods, monopods and camera sticks are **not permitted**.

Flash photography or live stream as well as talking or texting on cellular phones is **not permitted** while on the tour.

United States Capitol prohibited items closely match the list for the White House. However, the following items are allowed in the capitol:

Pens and Pencils

Cameras and video recording devices are allowed in the Capitol, but cannot be carried into the House or Senate Galleries. Cameras and/or video recording devices must be "checked" before entering the galleries. ANY ITEMS THAT YOU CHECK MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR NAME USING MASKING TAPE AND A PEN.

Thank you again for helping us out,

Mr. Housch