



Gamewell Middle School
3210 Gamewell School Road
Lenior, NC 28607
(828) 754-6204

8th Grade Parents,

We are excited to announce the second annual Eighth Grade Trip!!

This year we are going to Washington, DC, April 16-19, 2024. We will leave early on Wednesday morning, April 16 and return late on Friday, April 19. We will travel by charter bus through the touring company Burke Educational Travel. An itinerary is attached to this letter.

COST

The total cost for this trip will be approximately \$650 per student. This will cover bus, driver, accommodations, tickets to historic sites and museums, and seven meals. This amount also includes security at our hotel. **Students will also need money for three (3) meals not included in the trip and souvenirs.** We will pack lunches for the first day and cafeteria lunches will be available. Breakfast and one other meal will be provided each day. \$90-\$100 should cover all additional expenses.

WHO CAN GO?

We are asking that students going should maintain academic and behavioral expectations in order to represent our school and community well on a school trip out of state. Here are our expectations:

Academic Expectations:

Passing all Core Classes for 1st & 2nd Nine Weeks

Behavior Expectations: Students with **SIX strikes** will not be eligible to attend.

OSS=6 strikes

ISS (Whole Day)=2 strikes, 1 strike per partial day

Office Referral=1 strike

Office Referral with consequences=Strikes per consequence

Matrix Marks=2 Matrix Marks = 1 strike

ROOMS AND TOUR GROUPS

Students will sleep four to a room. Parents and students do not room together. A few weeks before the trip, students will request their roommates. Most students will get their requests. Tour Groups will be determined by 8th grade teachers.

CHAPERONES

We would like to have some parent chaperones; however, we will have limited space for parent chaperones. Cost for parents is **\$650** because parents sleep two to a room. Parent chaperones will also be required to pay an **additional fee** for a background check that is required by the

Board of Education and each will be required to follow a school chaperone code of conduct. This is by no means a “restful” vacation. This trip requires us to move at a faster than average pace and involves a great deal of walking. Chaperones will be responsible for helping enforce rules and making the trip run smoothly. Chaperones will be assigned a tour group of students whom they must keep with them at all times. If you are interested in chaperoning, complete the additional form and send in a **\$100** deposit to hold your space. (If you send in a chaperone deposit and are unable to go on the trip, the deposit will be applied to your child’s account.) As the trip approaches we will know how many students are going and how much space we have for parents. We will let you know at that time who our chaperones will be and have a meeting for those chaperones before the trip.

PAYMENT PLAN:

If your child is interested in attending, please fill out the attached form with a non-refundable \$100 deposit and return it to your Homeroom teacher at GMS. You are welcome to pay as much as you can at any time, but here is a suggested payment plan:

September 30, 2023 = \$100 non-refundable deposit
October 31, 2023 = \$100
November 30, 2023 = \$100
January 10, 2024 = \$100
February 10, 2024 = \$100
March 10, 2024 = \$150 (or remaining balance due)

***COMING SOON: You may also make payments or pay the entire trip cost online by going to our school website. Choose “Parents and Community” in the top menu. Then select “Online School Payments” from the menu. Select GMS Washington Trip and type the participant’s name in the description.**

*****No money will be refunded after March 1st due to payment made to the tour company*****

We will be offering opportunities for fundraising to offset the cost of this trip. The Education Foundation offers Student Activity scholarships. You may apply for \$50 from the Education Foundation by completing the attached application and returning it to the school.

Fundraising opportunities include:

- Home Game hot dog sales
- Calendar sponsorship (attached)
- Car Wash Coupon Sales

We are excited about this opportunity for your child to experience a trip to historic Washington, DC. Let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Your 8th grade teachers,

Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Nivens, Mrs. Norman, Ms. Houser, Ms. Swanson, Mrs. Privette, Mrs. Marley

Student Permission Form for 8th Grade Washington Trip 2024

Please complete information if your student **will** attend the Washington Trip in April, 2024.

Student's Name: _____ has my permission to go with

Gamewell Middle School on a field trip to Washington, DC on

April 16, 2024-April 19, 2024.

Departure Time _____ approximately 7:00 am

Approximate Time of Return _____ approximately 9:30 pm

Cost of the field trip is \$650.00 - Plus money for 3 meals, snacks, or souvenirs.

To Whom It May Concern:

In case of an accident or medical emergency which requires immediate medical attention to my son or daughter, I give my permission to take whatever action is necessary.

Date: April 16-19, 2024

Child's Name: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Event: Washington DC Trip

Emergency Contact 1: _____ **Phone #** _____

Work Phone # _____

Cell # _____

Emergency Contact 2: _____ **Phone #** _____

Work Phone # _____

Cell # _____

Insurance Company: _____ **Policy #** _____

***Emergency Medical Information** (Please note any physical disabilities, convulsive disorders, allergies, sensitivities, diabetes, etc.):

*****Please return permission form and a non-refundable \$100.00 Deposit by September 30, 2023*****

Parent Chaperone Info

Please complete the following if you want to attend as a chaperone:


Name: _____ Relationship to student: _____

Contact information: _____ (cell number)

Mailing Address: _____
Street address *City* *Zip*

Emergency Contact 1: _____ Phone # _____

Work Phone # _____ Cell # _____

- I understand that I will be responsible for a small group of students including my child. We will travel with the group and there will be other teachers, parents, and the tour guide to assist and support me.
- I will be assigned a double room with another parent chaperone.
- I will be expected to arrive on time and have my group of students accounted for at all times.
- I will serve as a role model for student behavior and treat students and other adults with respect.
- I will complete the Background Check through [Volunteer Tracker](#) per Caldwell County School Board Policy. 



SIGNATURE OF CHAPERONE

DATE

For Teacher use:

\$100 Deposit Paid

Background Check Completed

\$ _____ Payment

\$ _____ Payment

\$ _____ Payment

\$ _____ Payment

\$ _____ Payment



Burke Educational TRAVEL

A division of Burke International Tours/Christian Tours

P.O. Box 890 | Newton, NC 28658 | 828-465-3900



Washington DC ~ Our Nation's Capital

April 16-19 2024

Gamewell Middle School 8th Grade tour

Proposal

August 31, 2023

Ms. Leslie Nivens

3210 Gamewell School Road
Lenoir, NC 28645

School Phone: 828-754-6204

lnivens@caldwellschools.com

ITINERARY

Day 1 (Tuesday):

- Coach arrives for boarding at 7:00 am
- Depart the school at 7:30 am
- Rest or meal stops every two hours
- Lunch en route (*on your own*)
- Visit the Udvar Hazy Air & Space Museum
- See the 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon
- Pizza dinner (*included*)
- Check-in at our Washington, DC area hotel (*3 nights*)

Day 2 (Wednesday):

- Continental breakfast (*included*)
- Guided tour of the US Capitol Building
- Lunch (*on your own*)
- Visit the National Museum of American History
- Explore the Holocaust Museum (*pending availability*)
- Dinner (*included*)
- Visit Jefferson, FDR and MLK Jr. Memorials
- Return to our hotel for the evening

Day 3 (Thursday):

- Continental breakfast (*included*)
- Tram tour of Arlington National Cemetery
- Visit the Iwo Jima Memorial
- Lunch (*on your own*)
- Visit the National Museum of African American History
- Visit the National Museum of Natural History
- Walking tour of the World War II, Vietnam, Lincoln, Korean Memorials
- Dinner at the Pentagon City Mall (*\$15 allowance included*)
- Return to the hotel for the evening

Day 4 (Friday):

- Continental breakfast (*included*)
- Visit George Washington's Mount Vernon Home
- Lunch at the Mt Vernon food court (*on your own*)
- Depart for home
- Fast food dinner (*\$15 allowance included*)
- Arrive home approximately 9:30