

# 2018 JRHS Band & Orchestra Spring Trip – Cruise to Bahamas

Dear James River High School Band & Orchestra Parents,

This school year, the James River High School Band & Orchestra alongside with the Manchester High School and Midlothian High School Band and Orchestra will be taking a cruise to Nassau and Freeport, Bahamas as part of the *Performing Arts Consultants*. Included with this permission slip and packet should be everything you need to know to make an informed decision for your son or daughter to attend this trip. As more information becomes available, I will be passing it on so you can continue to be informed as we get closer to due dates and the date of the trip.

The estimated departure time from MANCHESTER HS will be **1 AM on Thursday, March 29, 2018** and estimated return time is **10 PM on Monday, April 2, 2018** although exact times will be provided later once remaining details have been solidified.

## COST

The total cost of the trip is dependent upon the total number of student and chaperones attending. Typically, the more students we have, the cheaper the trip since we pay for less empty bus seats. **The cost for students and chaperones will \$815, but may be less (as we get closer to the final due dates) depending on fundraising results specified for this trip.** Where possible, I will do whatever I can to reduce the cost of the trip for both students and parents. The Band Boosters and I are currently looking into ways we can reduce the cost of the trip for those who submit their deposit on time. Included in the **student/chaperone** cost of the trip is:

- Charter Bus transportation to and from Port Jacksonville, Florida
- 5 day / 4 nights cruise aboard the Carnival Elation cruise ship
- All meals while aboard the cruise lines
- Excursion to *Blue Lagoon* private island
- Onboard ship performance (orchestra) and dock side performance (band)
- Storage cabin for instruments

Students and chaperones wishing to attend the trip must submit the attached permission slip, and a \$100 deposit before **Wednesday, September 13, 2017**. The deposit amount for students is at least \$100; all deposits will be applied to the overall cost of the trip. Trip payment schedule will be as follows:

- Wednesday, September 13, 2017 \$100 deposit and permission slip (per participant)
- Wednesday, October 11, 2017 \$150 payment
- Wednesday, November 15, 2017 \$150 payment
- Wednesday, December 13, 2017 \$100 payment
- Wednesday, January 17, 2018 \$150 payment
- Wednesday, February 14, 2018 \$165 or remaining balance depending on fundraising contributions

Fundraising will take place that students can earn points toward their trip. There will be SEVERAL opportunities to earn points and pay for this trip.

## CHAPERONES

As with any trip, chaperones are necessary for a successful experience. Interested chaperones should also submit a separate permission slip (for record keeping purposes only) and deposit. By pairing with these 3 schools, we are hoping to minimize the number of empty seats and therefore, save money for everyone.

## CASH/CHECK

Students may submit deposits for themselves and their parents by cash or check made payable to **James River High School**.

## REFUND POLICY

- Refund less \$50 (fee charged by travel company) – If the entire trip is cancelled prior to Thanksgiving break
- Refund less \$100 deposit – If the group or individual cancels prior to Winter break (after Thanksgiving break)
- Refund less \$200 – If participant cancels prior to January 15.
- Refund less \$400 – If participant cancels prior to February 15.
- After February 15, no refund of payments can be made.

## PASSPORT INFORMATION

- We are encouraging every traveler to get a passport for this trip. Although it is not required, the other option is that students **MUST** carry their birth certificate with them at all times. So we are recommending **PASSPORTS** instead!!

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (subject to change with more details)**

- Thursday, March 29 - Depart MHS (VERY EARLY AM), Arrive in Port Jacksonville, load ship, eat lunch, set sail!
- Friday, March 30 – Freeport, Bahamas; perform dockside!
- Saturday, March 31 – Nassau, Bahamas; excursion to *Blue Lagoon* private beach
- Sunday, April 1 Easter Sunday – Day at Sea! – performance by the combined orchestras
- Monday, April 2 – Ship returns, load buses, head home! Arrive to MHS late evening.

**REGULATIONS and TRIP GUIDELINES**

1. All students will be under the supervision and jurisdiction of James River High School and the Chesterfield County School Board from the time that they board the bus at Manchester High School until they return to Manchester High School. This jurisdiction is absolute and covers all times and places during the duration of the trip.
2. No student may possess, consume, or distribute any alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or illegal drugs. This prohibition applies equally to all students on the trip irrespective of an individual student's age and/or the legal age of consumption of alcoholic beverages in any state through which this trip may pass. Violation of this prohibition will be handled by normal school procedure.
3. All students shall be transported at all times on the bus provided. No student will be permitted to be transported in any other mode of conveyance, either public or private, at any time during the trip, except under circumstances approved IN ADVANCE by the staff members in charge.
4. All students must remain with the band as a unit at all times and may not be released for any period of time to relatives, friends, etc.
5. Males shall not be allowed in females' rooms and vice versa without prior approval. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action by the staff members in charge.
6. A curfew will be established for each night, depending upon the activities scheduled for that evening. At curfew time, all students will be in their rooms and remain there until the designated time when we will meet for breakfast. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in STRICT disciplinary action and possible expulsion from future trips.
7. No abusive, offensive, or vulgar language or gestures should be directed to ANYONE AT ANYTIME.
8. Electronic devices are permitted; however, students must adhere to the school appropriate ratings (PG-13 or less) on all devices (even personal). Headphones must be used in all cases.
9. Have fun, be polite, and represent James River High School in a positive way.

I am extremely excited to be able to extend this invitation to your son or daughter as well as to you as a chaperone (when the information comes available). These trips will create memories for a lifetime and will be some of the only opportunities your son or daughter will have to create memories like these with their high school friends. I certainly hope you will consider this for your son or daughter.

I know that I may have missed some information that may be vital to your decision to attend. Please feel free to contact me at 378-2420 Ext. 4127 or by e-mail [justin\\_turpin@ccpsnet.net](mailto:justin_turpin@ccpsnet.net) if there are any questions.

Additional information on the trip as well as a trip meeting will follow as the event draws near.

Best Regards,

Mr. Turpin

**Please return the permission slip as well as the trip deposit on or before Wednesday, September 13, 2017.**

**Permission Slip**  
**2018 JRHS Band & Orchestra Spring Trip – Bahamian Cruise; Nassau & Freeport**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_

I give my child permission to attend the 2018 JRHS Spring Trip to Nassau and Freeport, Bahamas on March 29 – April 2, 2018. Having read the trip information, I understand the following:

- I have read the above information and understand the refund policy as explained in the letter.
- I understand monies paid are not refundable should my child miss the trip.
- I understand that I am responsible for transportation to and from Manchester High School on the day of departure.
- I have read and understand the regulations and trip guidelines pertaining to this trip.
- I understand that additional guidelines and rules may be added as needed to ensure the safety and appropriate behavior from all students.
- I understand that all chaperones attending these trips are in a position of authority and that I am expected to comply with all reasonable requests.
- I understand that if there is a concern in any way I should contact Mr. Turpin immediately.

Parent Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Home #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_