

September 11, 2009

Dear 8th Grade Students and Parents:

St. Joseph's School has an exciting upcoming event for the eighth grade students. On Friday, September 25th, seven junior high teachers will travel to Duluth with the 8th graders for a day of educational experiences and fun. This is a school day and class work will be done on the trip.

This year, the Home and School Association will be covering half of the total cost (\$54.00) for this wonderful educational trip. Students are asked to pay the other half (\$27) for this experience. The fee includes admission to the Great Lakes Aquarium, a special field investigation on the beach through the museum, a tour of the William A. Irvin ore ship and a lakeshore boat cruise. Dinner, including pizza and pop, on the cruise is included. Lunch will be at the beach and students need to bring a bag lunch from home. Small coolers may be taken for extra drinks or snacks on the bus ride. The three hour bus trip will include a rest area stop both on the way up and on the way back.

On September 25th, students should arrive at St. Joseph's parking lot by **5:45 AM**. The busses will pull out at 6:00 AM. Don't get stuck in a line at Starbuck's and miss the trip, like several almost did on a previous year. Parents should be at school to pick up their students Friday evening by **9:00 PM**. (Please be on time!) The itinerary for the day is as follows:

ITINERARY

5:45 AM	Students arrive at St. Joseph's School back parking lot.
6:00-9:00 AM	Travel time with rest stop
9:00 AM	Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center program and exhibit
10:00-12:00 PM	Art & Science curriculum work at Great Lakes Aquarium/Brighton Beach Investigations
12:00 Noon	Lunch (student's responsibility-bag lunch)
12:45-2:30 PM	Brighton Beach Investigations with GLA staff, small groups/Great Lakes Aquarium
2:30-4:00 PM	Tour of the William A. Irvin ore ship
4:15-6:00 PM	Vista Fleet King (a charter for students & faculty only) Narrated excursion of harbor, docks, lift bridge and ships; includes pizza dinner and pop with concessions available for purchase
6:15-9:00 PM	Travel home with two rest stops
9:00 PM	Parents meet students at St. Joseph's parking lot

Some additional notes...

- 1) Students may want to bring pillows for the travel time.
- 2) Be aware of the weather. Most likely it will be cool, and we will be outside for several hours in the morning/afternoon. Wearing layers of clothing works the best!!
- 3) Backpacks should be small, with extra clothing for outdoor time. These will stay on the busses.
- 4) Students may bring MP3 players, and cameras, but know that the busses will not be locked at all times, so items are at risk. Students will not use MP3 players except during travel. Portable DVD players and movies are not allowed at all. No cell phones are to be taken on the trip. Our record for arriving home on time is excellent, so there is no need for calls to parents for pickup. Cameras are okay to bring.
- 5) Students will need spending money only if they make purchases on the Vista King.

If you have any questions about the trip, call Ms. Kimmerling at 651-457-8550.