

March 6, 2017

Dear Band Students, Parents, and Guardians,

We have reached the final weeks before the Spring Band Trip to our Cleveland, OH! The Concert Band, Honors Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band have worked so diligently to compete among some of the country's finest high school ensembles.

Attached is the **BAND TRIP INFORMATION PACKET**. Included in this packet are an itinerary, packing list, tips for traveling, rules and regulations sheet, permission slip, and emergency contact/medical forms. Please read over all information thoroughly and carefully and sign where indicated. **Please note: The same parent/guardian must sign all forms.**

As discussed at Back To School Night, there will be a **MANDATORY** trip meeting on **Monday, March 27th** at 7PM in the SHS Cafetorium.

ALL TRIP PARTICIPANTS AND AT LEAST ONE PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST ATTEND! NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!

Please have all forms completed when you come to the meeting. **Forms should be turned in at the meeting.** Mr. Mastroserio will be present to review school regulations and proper trip procedures, and we will be able to answer any questions that you may have after reviewing the enclosed information.

Also, please note the following **MANDATORY** trip rehearsals:

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Thursday, April 6th | (6 –7PM) Concert Band | (7:15 – 8:15PM) Wind Ensemble |
| Tuesday, April 18th | (Period 10) Jazz Band | |
| Monday, April 17th | (6 –7PM) Concert Band | (7:15 – 8:15PM) Wind Ensemble |

As of March 2017, these rehearsals have been scheduled around most spring athletic events. It is imperative that all students participating in the festival attend these rehearsals. Barring any unforeseen circumstances (family emergency or illness), any student who misses either or both rehearsals **will not** perform in the festival.

I look forward to seeing you at the trip meeting on the 27th!

Sincerely,



Sarah Carino-Koza



Spotswood High School Band Cleveland & Festivals of Music April 20 – 22, 2017 CUSTOMIZED ITINERARY

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017:

- 7:00 am Coaches arrive at Spotswood High School, Spotswood, NJ, for boarding.
7:30 am Depart school for Cleveland with rest and meal stops en route.
Please no carbonated beverages on the motorcoach!
4:30 pm Approximate arrival time into Cleveland. Group will proceed to the **Doubletree by Hilton Cleveland Downtown**, Cleveland, OH, or similar, and check in.
5:45 pm Board coaches and depart hotel.
6:00 pm Arrive at the "Flats" and board the **Nautica Queen** for a dinner cruise (included). Group will cruise under the historic bridges and experience the breathtaking view of downtown Cleveland's ever changing skyline. *(6:00 pm boarding / 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm sailing)*
9:45 pm Meet waiting coaches and depart.
10:00 pm Approximate return to the hotel. Professional Security Guard on duty at the hotel.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017:

- 5:00 am Professional Security Guard off duty.
8:30 am **Full American Breakfast Buffet** (included) at the hotel.
10:00 am From the hotel, group will begin a **Lolly the Trolley** tour featuring the North Coast Harbor, home to the Wm. G. Mather Steamship, USS COD Submarine, Burke Lakefront Airport, the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and the Great Lakes Science Center, the new Browns Football Stadium & the Port of Cleveland, Ohio City, an early settlement and home to both the county's oldest church (which played an important part in the African-American fabric of Cleveland) & the world famous West Side Market, Downtown Cleveland's historic and contemporary buildings, monuments, and public art, The Warehouse District, Cleveland's first Downtown – now a new place for people to live, work & play, The Flats and the mighty Cuyahoga River where Cleveland and its industries both got their start, Quicken Loans Arena and Progressive Field where a different kind of history is made!
11:15 am Tour concludes at Metro Campus where group will meet the coaches.
11:30 am Arrive at **Festivals of Music** Performance Site, Cuyahoga Community College Metro Campus.

PERFORMANE SCHEDULE

Concert Band: 11:45 am warm-up / 12:15 pm performance
Wind Ensemble: 1:15 pm warm-up / 1:45 pm performance
Jazz Band: 3:00 pm warm-up / 3:30 pm performance

- pm Any student not performing, will enjoy lunch (included) on the Metro Campus. Each student and chaperone will receive a **\$20.00 stipend** to purchase lunch at one of the various dining facilities.

All travel times are approximate.

Itinerary is subject to change based on availability of the items included in the program (Rev 2/1/17)



Spotswood High School Band
Cleveland & Festivals of Music
April 20 – 22, 2017
CUSTOMIZED ITINERARY (page 2)

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017 (CONTINUED):

- pm Time permitting, group will board coaches and return to the hotel to freshen up prior to the evening activities.
- 5:30 pm Dinner (included) at the **House of Blues**, or similar.
- 7:30 pm Arrive at Severance Hall and take reserved seats for an evening performance by the **Cleveland Pops** performing; *And The Tony Goes To... (8:00 pm performance)*
- 10:00 pm Meet waiting coaches and depart.
- 10:30 pm Approximate return to the hotel. Professional Security Guard on duty at the hotel.

IMPORTANT: *Several of the activities will be accessed on foot. All students and chaperones are reminded to use extreme caution when walking in Cleveland. Please cross streets ONLY in the designated crosswalks and ONLY when crossing lights indicate to do so. Be aware and alert of your surroundings at all times!!*

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017:

- 5:30 am Professional Security Guard off duty at the hotel.
- 7:00 am Final check of rooms for personal belongings.
- 7:30 am **Full American Breakfast** Buffet (included) at the hotel.
- 8:30 am Load luggage on coaches and depart hotel.
- 9:00 am Arrive at the **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Museum for Festivals of Music Awards Ceremony.**
- am Following the awards, group will enjoy a self guided tour of the museum that engages, teaches and inspires through the power of rock & roll.
- 12:30 pm The **Spotswood High School Band** will participate in a **public performance** at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame (*Performance(s) between 12:30 – 1:15 pm*)
- 1:30 pm Board coaches and depart for home with rest & meal stops en route.
- 10:30 pm Approximate return time to the school.

SPOTSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BAND TRIP

CLEVELAND, OH

APRIL 20TH – APRIL 22ND 2017

PACKING LIST

Below, you'll find a list of things to keep in mind for the trip. Since we're only going for three days it won't be necessary to bring your whole closet, however you should try to be prepared for any unexpected weather or situations. Also remember that **all school rules, regulations, and dress codes apply while on the trip**. Any student in violation of this will be **sent home immediately at the parents'/guardians' expense**.

HOW MUCH LUGGAGE SHOULD I BRING? All luggage will go on the buses, so each student will be permitted one medium-sized suitcase and one carry-on (purses do not count as a carry-on). **LABEL ALL LUGGAGE; NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE #!**

OMG, WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?!

- Bring enough clothes for three days in early-Spring-like weather. Look over the itinerary and decide what you'll be comfortable in doing the activities that we have planned; it also might be a good idea to bring one or two extra outfits just in case.
- **Two** "fancy" outfits for our dinner cruise (Thursday) and the Cleveland Pops (Friday); Homecoming attire is a good rule of thumb; **NO JEANS/SNEAKERS/SHORTS**.
- **CONCERT ATTIRE**; obvi!
- Coat/jacket
- **COMFORTABLE** WALKING SHOES (*the majority of our trip will be walking!*)
- An umbrella/raincoat
- Pajamas
- A WATCH (*actually, anything that tells time – like a sundial...*)
- Bathroom toiletries (*hairdryers are in the rooms, as are irons*)
- Personal hygiene items (PLZ!)

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I BRING?

- Spending money (*lunch money for Thursday and Saturday, and enough left over for cool, overpriced touristy stuff*)
- Snacks for the bus ride/late night snack-attacks
- Motion sickness pills (*if you think the bus ride won't agree with you*)
- Camera (*nothing too expensive; or leave your really expensive lenses at home*)
- Pillow (*for those much needed bus-naps*)
- PSP/iPod/MP3 player (*to be listened to at a reasonable volume and kept in a safe place at all times*)
- A bag to bring with you during the day (*for your wallet, phone, etc.; a backpack is a good idea*)
- Books/Nook/Kindle/iPad to read on the trip there and back
- Homework (?!)
- Games for the bus ride (*Pin the tail on the freshman? J/K ☺*)
- Cell Phone, Cell Phone Charger, External Battery

WHAT ABOUT MY INSTRUMENT/MUSIC?

All instruments AND music will be packed on the bus on the morning of our departure. Be sure to pack extra reeds/valve oil or any other instrument needs. **You must have everything out and ready to go in the band room before you leave school on Wednesday, April 19th.**

HEY, WHAT ABOUT CONCERT ATTIRE?

Please read the following *very* carefully (*several times, aloud, and translate into Spanish if you're bored*):

ALL STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING THEIR CONCERT ATTIRE IN A PRESSED FASHION ON THE TRIP.

For the gentlemen, cummerbunds and ties will be placed in your luggage during luggage check-in on Wednesday, April 19th. Any gentleman who requires a WHITE TUX SHIRT will bring the one that was issued to him at the Winter Concert.

Ladies: Black shoes, black skirt/pants, white shirt/blouse, skin-colored pantyhose

Gentlemen: Black shoes, BLACK SOCKS, black pants, white tux shirt, black tie, cummerbund

OK, I GET IT – IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?

Yes. Please remember that, at all times, you are representing not only Spotswood High School, but also Spotswood, NJ. Your conduct, appearance, and behavior are a direct reflection of our group and our town. Be respectful of all chaperones, drivers, judges, or any other adults who will interact with our group. As we are performing among high schools from all over the country, I expect you to act like the mature, professional group that you are.

Also be sure to keep track of your belongings. It is not recommended that you bring irreplaceable or expensive items with you on the trip (great-grandmom's antique ring, virtual reality goggles, your puppy), but if you choose to do so (ok, minus the puppy) you will be responsible for it. Do not expect your hotel rooms to be a good place for these things when you're not around! If you bring anything of value, a good rule of thumb is to keep it on you at all times.

TIPS FOR BEING A GOOD HOTEL GUEST

- When arriving to your hotel room, please check over everything to ensure that nothing is missing or broken. If something is wrong, let a chaperone know and we will take care of it (at no time should you contact the front desk). This is **VERY IMPORTANT**, as **YOU** will personally be responsible for any damage done to the room (and any impending charges) after we have left.
- You should conduct yourself in a manner so as not to disturb other guests. This means no screaming slamming doors, or running through the hallways - especially when returning from evening activities. **If there are complaints made about our group, the offending students WILL GO HOME at the expense of their parents/guardians. No warnings, no second chances.**
- **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE YOU PERMITTED TO LEAVE THE HOTEL.**
- Keep the door to your room locked at all times and do not open it for anyone other than a fellow SHS student or SHS chaperone. Stranger danger!
- Each evening, you will be instructed a “lights out” time. You are expected to adhere to this time; trust me – you’ll need the sleep after each day.
- **DO NOT USE THE ROOM PHONE FOR ANY REASON (including calling the Front Desk).**
- The use of room service or ordering from an outside establishment is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THIS IS FOR YOUR SAFETY.**

TIPS FOR BEING SIGHTSEEING SAAVY

- Remain quiet while the Tour-Escort or any adult/chaperone is on the microphone at the front of the bus.
- The noise level on the bus should be kept to a minimum at all times, so as not to distract the driver. Do not throw things on the bus and do not stand up while the bus is in motion. These rules are implemented to keep you safe.
- We can spend only a certain amount of time at each site. Consequently, it is important that we keep as close to our schedule as possible. A five-minute delay at each sight on a three-day tour results in three hours of sightseeing time lost. **WHEN GIVEN A TIME TO BE SOMEWHERE, BE ON TIME!**
- **NEVER** wander off by yourself for any reason at all. This includes restrooms. You should **NEVER** be alone; always take a buddy (imaginary friends don’t count).
- Discuss with your parents/guardians the appropriate amount of spending money to bring on the trip. Make sure you ration the amount that you have for the whole trip – don’t spend it all in the first day!! Chaperones **CANNOT** and **WILL NOT** be responsible for replacing lost money or covering expenses if you overspend.

THE TOP TEN WAYS TO MAKE THIS TRIP AWESOME

10. When deciding on a bus partner for the NINE HOUR DRIVE to Cleveland, please ensure that the person you select is someone who you don't mind sitting next to for NINE HOURS. While Carino is skilled at many things, dealing with seat-partner drama and personal-space crises do not interest her in the least. #makegoodchoices
9. Please be sensitive to your roommates and their need to sleep. Don't keep them up until 4am talking about your thoughts on US-Russia relations or why hashtags annoy you. #justsleepbro
8. Before we get on stage at the performance venue, check your instrument for any necessary up-keep (reeds, valve oil, slide oil, etc.). Asking Carino for a new reed seconds before the downbeat will result in an angry stare. And probably no new reed. #protips
7. Don't call your parents to tell them that your Snapchat app crashed or that you can't decide which belt to wear with your pants. They're worried enough about you being away from home, so don't concern them with trite problems. But DO call home and tell them how great we performed! Hooray! #letswinsometrophies!
6. When checking-out of the hotel, check EVERYWHERE in your room for things that could be left behind. It would be a real shame to realize in Pennsylvania that you left your diamond-encrusted Apple Watch in the top drawer of your nightstand back in Ohio. #packingfail
5. Please remember that, while in and around the city of Cleveland, security is a real thing. The local police are unamused by your bomb jokes, and explaining to Carino why you're calling her from prison is not a cool story, bro. #jailisnofun
4. While you may love nothing other than hearing your favorite country/hip-hop/polka fusion band at six million decibels on the bus, please know that the rest of us can't stand listening to it stream out of your earbuds and will chuck your iPod out the window and subsequently poke you in the eye. #nicklebackisterrible
3. Be polite and respectful to the other bands that we're competing against, as well as any festival personnel who are there to ensure that you have a great experience. Their disinterest in your brand new mute or Dave Grohl-signed drum sticks are not an affront to who you are as a person. Don't start a nerd fight. #cashmeousside
2. Do you know how awesome it is to have everyone on your bus ready to go to the next stop EXCEPT FOR ONE PERSON? Yeah, let me tell you, it's not awesome. Don't be that guy. The walk of shame back to the buses is nothing compared to the hazing that you will get if you make 60 people wait for an hour because you were in line to buy a Lady Gaga meat dress commemorative coin. #lifefail
1. Don't complain. About anything. Ever. Especially to the chaperones at the end of the trip on the way home. Instead, write it down and perform it later as a dramatic soliloquy. #sorrynotsorry

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

This section must be signed by BOTH the Student and a Parent/Guardian

I hereby agree to the arrangement, rules and regulations, which have been provided to me for the Spotswood High School Band Trip to Cleveland, OH. I will abide by all regulations and instructions given by the duly appointed chaperons.

I understand that infraction of school policy, insubordination, or disorderly conduct will result in my immediate dismissal from the remainder of the trip at the cost of my parent/guardian.

Signature of Student

I hereby agree to the arrangements, rules and regulations, which have been provided to me for the Spotswood High School Band Trip to Cleveland, OH.

I assume any additional costs regarding the transportation of my child, should he/she violate procedure or regulations, or is medically unable to proceed with the group.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Trip Emergency Form

Name of Student _____ Date of Birth _____

Home Phone Number _____

Mother Work Phone _____

Father Work Phone _____

Contact Lenses: _____ yes _____ no

Currently taking any medication? _____ yes _____ no

If yes, please explain: _____

Any allergies? _____ yes _____ no

If yes, to what? _____

Please send proper medication (previously identified) for the above mentioned allergies if necessary.

Any disabilities? _____ yes _____ no

Please explain: _____

If a parent/guardian cannot be reached, please list the name and phone number of two relatives or family friends who can be reached in the event of an emergency:

1. Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____

Phone _____

2. Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Health Insurance Information

Did you purchase School Accident Insurance for this school year?

School-time Plan () Yes () No Full-time Plan () Yes () No

Is insurance authorization required prior to any treatment? _____

If so, list the name and phone # of the contact person: _____

Insurance Company _____

Policy # _____ **Date of last Tetanus shot** _____

Family Physician or Clinic _____

Phone # _____ **Address** _____

Emergency Contact person (other than parent/guardian) _____

Relationship to the student _____ **Home phone** _____

Work phone of Contact Person _____

I hereby grant permission to those parties supervising the trip to obtain emergency medical treatment for my child _____ if necessary.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Is there any medical aspect we need to know about your child? If so, please explain:

