
8TH GRADE TRIP TO WASHINGTON, DC



WHY EJRP?

- Serve mission areas of providing recreational experiences and diverse learning opportunities
- Meet community need/desire for programming
- Familiar connection with kids and families
- Open to all, affordable, high quality
- Continuity for future 8th graders
- Community-wide fundraising opportunities
- Scholarships opportunities



WHO CAN GO?

All 8th grade students that attend Albert D. Lawton Intermediate School or live in the City of Essex Junction

CHAPERONES

This is a list of last years chaperones. We typically have 6-8 EJRP employees come on the trip. We will have a definitive list by the pre-trip meeting in April.



Anthony Hope, Programs Coordinator- EJRP
(DC Chaperone 2022, 2023, 2025, 2026)



Cass Falone, Assistant Childcare Director, EJRP
(DC Chaperone 2024, 2025, 2026)



Alyssa Callan, Business Services Administrator
(DC Chaperone 2019, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026)



Amy Bissonnette, Rec Kids Site Coordinator
(DC Chaperone 2026 - DC Trip Attendee 2015)

CHAPERONES



Brad Luck, Director, EJRP
(DC Chaperone 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024,
2025, 2026)
& Graham Luck (DC 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026)

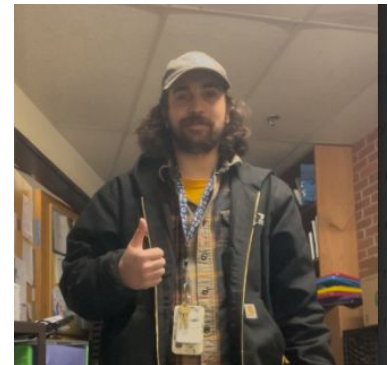


Michael Randall, EJRP Childcare Staff
(DC Chaperone 2025, 2026)



Rosy Peckham
(DC Chaperone 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Simon Chirichiello, Rec Kids Site Coordinator
(DC Chaperone Rookie)



TRANSPORTATION



Provided by Premier Coach

- 56-passenger bus
- Comfortable seats
- Restroom
- Wifi
- DVD player
- Outlets

ACCOMMODATIONS



Springhill Suites in Sterling,
VA

- 5 students/room with 2 double beds and pullout couch
- 25 miles from downtown DC
- Complimentary hot breakfast daily
- Indoor pool
- Basketball court
- Free wifi

DRAFT AGENDA

Note:

- We will attempt to accomplish all of the following
- There are many complicating factors that may impact our itinerary- tour availability, weather, etc.
- We will release a final schedule just prior to departure –which will still be subject to change



DAY 1:

Sunday, April 18

- 7am Depart Maple Street Recreation Center. **Arrive by 6:45am.**
- Stop occasionally for restroom & stretch breaks
- Bring a bagged lunch (or \$ to buy lunch)
- Dinner at Hard Rock Cafe
- DC Night Tour- stopping at Jefferson, Iwo Jima, Lincoln Memorial, and White House
- 11pm Check into hotel





DAY 2: Monday, April 19

- Breakfast at hotel
- Arlington National Cemetery
 - 400,000+ military veterans
 - Tomb of the Unknown Soldier & Changing of the Guard
 - JFK's Eternal Flame
- Pentagon Tour
 - 17.5 miles of corridor & 23,000 employees
- Lunch at Pentagon City Mall
- Natural History Museum
 - Hope diamond, dinosaurs, ocean life, mammals, human origins, insect zoo
- Holocaust Museum
 - Living memorial to persecution of 6,000,000 Jews by the Nazi's
- Paddle boats
- Dinner at Crystal City Sports Pub



DAY 3: Tuesday, April 20

- Breakfast at hotel
- West Potomac Park-FDR & MLK Memorials
- National Archives

Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Bill of Rights

- Bureau of Engraving and Printing
- Lunch at Food Trucks
- US Capitol Tour
- House/Senate Galleries
- Botanical Gardens
- Dinner in Sterling, VA (Olive Garden or Sweetwater Tavern)





DAY 4: Wednesday, April 21

- Breakfast at hotel
- Udvar Hazy Air and Space Museum

Thousands of aircraft, including:
Space Shuttle Discovery (39 space missions), Enola Gay (dropped 1st atomic bomb), Lockheed Blackbird (fastest jet propelled aircraft)

- Lunch at Panera Bread
- International Spy Museum
- American History Museum

Dorothy's ruby slippers, original American flag, Lincoln's top hat

- Shear Madness Production at Kennedy Center
- Dinner at Kennedy Center



DAY 5: Thursday, April 22

- Breakfast at hotel
- Load bags onto bus
- Lincoln, WWII, Korean, Vietnam Memorials and Washington Monument
- African American History & Culture Museum
 - Rosa Parks' dress, Louis Armstrong's trumpet, Woolworth's lunch counter,
- Lunch at Food Trucks
- National Zoo
 - Elephants, pandas, apes, insects, reptiles, lions, tigers
- 3:30pm Depart DC for Vermont
- Arrive back at EJRP at 3:00am on Friday





FINANCIALS

- \$990 total trip cost
- Payment Options:
 - Pay in Full
 - Pay in 5 equal installments of \$198 on the 15th of the month- October-February
- Non-refundable unless we are able to fill your spot
- Not included in price: Travel Insurance, Lunch on Sunday, Optional Shopping, Snacks, Souvenirs
- Limited partial scholarships are available, form is on our website and should be returned by October 2.
- Limited fundraising opportunities - Meet Me on Main-advance sign up required.

REGISTRATION

- Registration will open Wednesday, September 16 at 9AM
- Complete online registration at our website (www.ejrp.org), or call 802-878-1375, or come by the office
 - Note-we have a new registration software system as of August 2026. If you have not created a new account, you will need to do so prior to registering
 - <https://www.rec.us/organizations/essex-junction>
 - Forms required at registration- will need access to Social Security Number, medications, allergy action plans, etc.
 - Fast Track - can complete registration forms in advance, but must finish the registration once open
- Note: Minimum of 40 students needed for trip. Max of 48 students on the first bus. After 48 registrations we will begin a waitlist (no fee). Need 80 registrations for a second bus.

FUNDRAISING

**Individual Opportunities are
up to you!**

Here are some ideas:

- Ask neighbors and family members if they need help with raking leaves, washing cars, mowing lawns, shoveling snow, babysitting, carrying groceries, or dog walking
- Put money aside from birthdays, holidays, or allowances
- Set up a yard sale, bake sale, lemonade stand, bottle drive
- Start a change jar

**EJRP Opportunity:
Meet Me on Main!**

- Help with event set up
- Help with raffle sales
- Advance Sign Up
Required- link will be sent to the student email provided.
- Amount will be applied to account and taken off future billing installments

MISCELLANEOUS



We will be dressing up each day.

Is: khaki/dress pants, dresses, skirts, collared shirts
Is not: jeans, shorts, sweatpants, joggers, shirts w/out a collar, tank tops



We will take roommate requests and assign roommates prior to the trip, however, not all requests can be honored.



We will assign chaperone groups for you to have a primary chaperone to check in with throughout each day.



We will be walking.....a lot! Wearing comfortable footwear is important, along with being able to walk many miles a day for multiple days in a row.



We will have a pre-trip meeting in April to review plans and further details.

STUDENT CONDUCT

- Listen and follow instructions from chaperones, bus driver, tour guides, security, hotel management, etc.
- No exiting rooms between lights out and breakfast
- Call chaperone in case of emergency
- Be flexible- plans can change due to weather or tour availability

Choices should be:

- **Respectful**
- **Responsible**
- **Caring**
- **Honest**
- **Safe**
- **Legal**



WHAT TO BRING

- Bagged lunch for Sunday (or \$)
- Comfortable clothes for the bus ride
- Four business casual outfits
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Jacket/sweatshirt
- Umbrella or raincoat
- Pajamas
- Undergarments
- Toiletries
- Any needed medications
- Small bag to bring with you each day
- Reusable water bottle



WHAT TO BRING (OPTIONAL)

- Bathing suit and sandals for hotel indoor pool
- Entertainment for bus ride and hotel
- Cell phone and charger
- Camera and batteries/charger
- Sunglasses, hat, sunscreen
- Any snacks you may want (there are refrigerators in rooms)
- Spending money

You are responsible for bringing, carrying, and securing the items you will need for the duration of the trip!

QUESTIONS?

