

Field Trips, Excursions And Outdoor Education

The board recognizes that field trips, when used as a device for teaching and learning integral to the curriculum, are an educationally sound and important ingredient in the instructional program of the schools. Such trips can supplement and enrich classroom activities by providing learning experiences in an environment beyond the classroom.

Field trips that take students out of the state, out of the country, or keep students out of the district overnight must be approved in advance by the board. Exceptions to this will be granted in the following circumstances: 1) Field trips which are planned to keep students out of the district for one night and which will be in the greater Puget Sound area, defined as the west side of the State (including the Olympic Peninsula) can be approved by the Superintendent; and 2) Some field trips may require exceptions to the one night time limit. At the discretion of the principal, these may be recommended to the superintendent for approval. All exceptions to the advance approval for overnight field trips by the Board would be presented to the Board for acknowledgement at the next board meeting. Outdoor education resident school plans will be presented to the board for annual approval. The superintendent has the authority to approve all other field trips, except as noted above.

The superintendent will develop procedures for the operation of a field trip or an outdoor education activity which will ensure that the safety of the student is protected and that parent permission is obtained before the student leaves the school. Each field trip must be integrated with the curriculum and coordinated with classroom activities that enhance its usefulness. Private vehicles may be used to transport students if approval is obtained in advance from an administrator.

No staff member may recruit students for any privately arranged field trip or excursion without board permission.

Cross References: 6625 - Private Vehicle Transportation
 3520 - Student Fees, Fines, or Charges

Legal References: RCW 28A.330.100(5) Additional powers of board
 RCW 67.20.020 Contracts for cooperation
 WAC 181-87-090 Improper remunerative conduct

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