

Proposal Washington D.C. Trip May 2027

Highlights:

School: Forestdale School

Grade : 7 & 8

Number of students: Minimum 45 students. A soft survey was sent to current 7th grade students. 70% of parents responded. Of those who answered 95% of parents are interested in learning more.

Dates: May 25th -28th 2027

Location: Washington D.C.

Cost: \$1000 per student - many opportunities for fundraising and discounts. Payment over 16 months (December 2025 to March 2027). Monthly payments of roughly \$68

Overview:

We are excited to seek permission to take **7th and 8th grade students to Washington, D.C., in May 2027**. In May 2025, we successfully took 55 students on this enriching experience. During that trip, students visited the monuments, toured the U.S. Capitol, and explored several Smithsonian museums.

This trip not only connects directly with many aspects of our curriculum but also provides invaluable opportunities for students to strengthen friendships and build a sense of community.

Enclosed in this letter, you will find a sample itinerary, estimated cost, fundraising projections, and a FAQ section. We look forward to addressing any questions and sharing more details during the upcoming school committee meeting presentation.

Estimated Cost & Fundraising opportunities:

We understand that a trip of this size can be cost preventative to a number of our families and have a comprehensive plan to ensure this is an opportunity everyone can access if they are willing to donate their time.

Last year, we raised \$13,452. We were able to offer help to any family that requested support.

→ **Estimated Cost:** Total cost for 45 Students. \$45,000

→ **Fundraisers Estimated Total:** \$14000

Month	Fundraising ideas	Expected Amount raised
October 2025 & 2026	Candy Grams	\$1000
November 2025 & 2026	Fall Festival	\$4000
December 2025 & 2026	Prize Calendar	\$4000
January 2025 & 2026	Break	
February 2025 & 2026	Bingo Night	\$1000
March 2025 & 2026	March Madness Basketball	\$1000

	tournament	
April	Break	
May 2025 & 2026	Car Wash/ Bake Sale	\$1000
Anticipated Total based on prior fundraising experience		\$12000

We understand that even with fundraising, the cost of the trip may still be challenging for some families. To help offset expenses, we have reached out to a number of companies and organizations requesting approximately **\$15,000 in grants**. If awarded, these grants, together with student fundraising efforts, will help make the trip more affordable.

For families who may not be able to contribute financially, we ask that students be willing to donate their time to participate in fundraising activities. Additionally, we will use grant funds and general fundraising to sponsor students in need, ensuring that every interested student has the opportunity to participate.

Payment Schedule Options:

Plan A - One-time Full Payment	Plan B - 14 Payments of \$75	Plan C - 12 Payments of \$90	Plan D - 9 Payments of \$111
Pay the full amount of \$1000 due by March 15, 2027	1. January 2026 2. February 2026 3. March 2026 4. April 2026 5. May 2026 6. June 2026 7. July 2026 8. August 2026 9. September 2026 10. October 2026 11. November 2026 - December 2026 - NO PAYMENT DUE 12. January 2027 13. February 2027 14. Final Payment March 15, 2027	February 2026 SKIP 1. March 2026 2. April 2026 May 2026 SKIP 3. June 2026 4. July 2026 5. August 2026 6. September 2026 7. October 2026 8. November 2026 - December 2026 - NO PAYMENT DUE 9. January 2027 10. February 2027 11. Final Payment March 15, 2027	Pay off Nature's classroom first 1. June 2026 2. July 2026 3. August 2026 4. September 2026 5. October 2026 6. November 2026 - December 2026 - NO PAYMENT DUE 7. January 2027 8. February 2027 9. Final payment March 15, 2027

Students who are Not Attending:

Students who will not be attending will be participating in alternative activities during the school day.

FAQ:

Where will they be sleeping?

- Students are in hotel rooms of 4 students that are assigned by the teachers. There is a “night chaperone” and they will notify teachers and other chaperones of any night issues.

What food is included?

- Breakfast will be at the hotel. 2 Lunches and 2 sit-down dinners. Money will be set aside for the meals not included.

What about an emergency?

We will work with the company to evaluate the situation and take appropriate action. Such as seek medical support if needed.

Are they traveling with other students?

- We will not be traveling with any students outside of Forestdale

Do they allow monthly payments?

- Yes, part of the advantage of starting this conversation so early in the school year is that families can spread the cost out over the next two years. Students will be able to make monthly payments until paid off.

How will we get there?

- We will be taking a coach bus. It will take roughly 8-9 hours to arrive.

Will parents be able to go?

- Yes, parents may join the trip if it enhances the experience for the students. Parents who choose to participate would be expected to pay the same cost as a student.

Feedback from the last trip:

- Teachers were amazing. My son had an awesome time. Best East to end their time at Forestdale.
- loved it! We were very happy he had the opportunity to go and hope they will go somewhere different next year!

Favorite memories from last year

- Being at the hotel and laughing with my friends and the Capitol Hill
- There were lots of good memories but my favorite was the rocket museum.
- the museum , the memorial
- All of dc
- the space museum flight simulator

- Seeing the seals at the zoo! And just getting to spend a lot of time with my friends! :D

Opportunity from the student prospect:

- It was as good as could be, probably. Mostly just more museums. :)
- Make it longer in days
- nothing can improve it was amazing
- Less walking and more places to sit and relax
- Increasing it to a 8 day trip
- more walking for next kids