

Regional School District 13 • *Middlefield - Durham*

COGINCHAUG REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

135 Pickett Lane, P.O. Box 280, Durham, Connecticut 06422-0280 • 860-349-7215

BRIAN FALCONE

Principal

PATRICK GUSTAFSON

Assistant Principal

January 30, 2018

Dear Junior Parents and Guardians:

Among the many traditions at Coginchaug Regional High School is the senior class trip to Washington D.C. In November, our seniors will again have the opportunity to experience the sights and sounds of our nation's capital. The entire trip is planned and chaperoned by experienced members of our teaching staff, whose knowledge of the Washington D.C. area rivals that of many professional tour guides, and whose dedication to the success of the trip is a notable asset to the Coginchaug community.

Regional School District 13 believes that time spent away from the classroom should enhance the students' education. The senior trip is not a vacation, but rather an opportunity for participating seniors to cultivate a greater sense of decorum and sophistication while learning more about the nation's capital and history. Students will visit museums, historical sites, arts centers, government buildings, and monuments to those who have died in the service of the nation. They will stay in a business hotel and eat at several fine restaurants. The Washington trip is a privilege afforded to those students who have demonstrated a willingness and desire to benefit from such an experience.

Escorting more than one hundred young adults to a large city like Washington D.C. for four days is a tremendous responsibility. For over thirty years, the overwhelming majority of Coginchaug students have consistently demonstrated their commitment to Region 13's Core Ethical Values and conducted themselves with impeccable manners. Unfortunately, some students have chosen to disregard established rules and made choices that prompted either their removal from specific activities or their immediate return home. It is therefore important that seniors and their parents and guardians clearly understand our expectations for behavior and share our commitment to ensuring that the senior Washington trip is an experience which we can all look back on with pride.

Please review the attached set of guidelines for participation in, and behavior during, the 2018 senior trip to Washington D.C. We encourage you to talk them over with your son/daughter so that the expectations are clear for all.

GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION

1. ***The school reserves the right to deny participation to any senior whose behavior is determined by school officials to either jeopardize the success of the trip or the health and safety of others.*** Such behavior includes but is not limited to having a school record of insubordination, vandalism, drug or alcohol violation or any other breach of school rules or policies up to and including the day of departure for the trip. Refunds for any monies paid for the trip to that point cannot be guaranteed.
2. As of the first day of the 2018-2019 school year, a student must be listed as an official senior. (19 credits)
3. We reserve the right to check luggage prior to departure.
4. During the course of the trip, if the chaperones determine that a student's behavior has violated any school rules or Board of Education policies, or that he or she has engaged in any behavior that could be perceived as a violation of school rules or policies, the school administration has the right to send a student home. Parents will be notified and held liable for any expenses incurred in transporting their child home. Students sent home for any of these reasons will also lose all senior privileges for the rest of the school year. These privileges include, but are not limited to: the senior picnic, senior prom, and participation in the graduation ceremony.
5. Given the uncertainty of future events and concern for the safety of the participants, the Region 13 Board of Education, as the sponsor of this voluntary trip, reserves the right to unilaterally cancel the trip at any time without incurring any liability for the costs of such cancellation. Should the trip be cancelled, The Board of Education, its staff, and agents assume no responsibility or liability for financial loss, inconvenience, or disappointment experienced by participants of this trip.

The Washington trip for the *Class of 2019* is scheduled for November 14-17, 2018, and the cost is \$700. This price includes all transportation, accommodations, meals (students are responsible for buying their lunch for two of the days), and tickets. We urge all eligible seniors to participate. **A deposit of \$350* must be given to Mr. Bradanini by Friday May 11, 2018** or the assumption will be made that the student is not going. **The remaining \$350* will be due by Friday October 5, 2018.** Barring unusual circumstances, the only exception to this policy will be new students entering the school after that date.

Payment options:

- Checks should be made payable to ***CRHS Activity Fund*** and delivered to Mr. Bradanini in room 109.
- You can now make payments through the school payment portal (directions attached) you may make the \$350 deposit or the full \$700 payment through the portal.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 349-7215.

Sincerely,

Craig Bradanini, Trip Coordinator

Craig Bradanini

Brian Falcone, Principal

Brian Falcone

* Deposits and/or final payments may be refunded or partially refunded if notice is received in writing 60 days prior to the trip; otherwise, deposits and/or final payments cannot be guaranteed.

*****THIS FORM NEEDS TO BE SIGNED AND RETURNED ALONG WITH PAYMENT*****

WASHINGTON TRIP - PARENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Please acknowledge by signing your name that you, the parent or guardian, have read and fully understand the conditions under which your son/daughter is eligible for the senior trip to Washington. If paying through the school portal, return this just this signed form. If paying by check, return this form and the \$350 deposit check made out to: *CRHS Activity Fund*. Please hand forms to Mr. Bradanini (room 109) no later than Friday, May 11, 2018.

Student Name (please print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian (please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

* Deposits and/or final payments may be refunded or partially refunded if notice is received in writing 60 days prior to the trip; otherwise, deposits and/or final payments cannot be guaranteed.