

2024 MTZ Band/Orchestra/Color Guard NYC Trip Behavior Guidelines

The Mt. Zion High School Band, Orchestra, and Color Guard will be traveling to New York City departing in the afternoon of Thursday, April 18, 2024, and returning on the evening of Tuesday, April 23, 2024. It is crucial that all students and their parents/guardians understand our policies. Because this is a school-related trip, all school expectations and guidelines will be enforced at all times. Please consult your school policy and procedure handbook.

Students must earn a grade of B or above in their music ensemble class and have no unexcused absences for any of the required concerts. Students must be academically eligible by 3/22 and maintain their academic eligibility until departure. Please consult with Mr. Ward if there is any question about the concert schedule. A schedule of all events was provided for you in your Band Handbook at the beginning of the school year.

While traveling, it is the expectation that the members of our school music program will be ambassadors representing the Mt. Zion School district, the community of Mt. Zion, and the State of Illinois. Students will be expected to demonstrate their absolute best behavior at all times. All rules and directions given by the director and the supervising chaperones must be followed immediately and without question or disrespect.

Each day there will be a curfew and “lights-out” time given by the director and students will be expected to adhere to this timeline strictly and **without exception**. Snacks will be allowed on the bus, but no meals will be eaten on the bus. We will be expected to keep the bus clean and students will be held responsible for any additional cleaning fees assessed as a result of their actions. Students will be held responsible for the condition of their rooms and will pay for any damages or extra charges incurred. **Any violation of local law will be prosecuted.**

We enjoy organizing excursions together as a learning experience and a reward for students’ continued musical excellence. Every successful outing, with exemplary behavior, means we can travel again in the future. Students’ best behavior, the best practice and musical preparation, and complete readiness (this includes getting enough rest before and during the trip), will undoubtedly lead to successful performance outcomes.

Before your child commits to the fundraising and preparation process, we need to know that the expectations for behavior and consequences on the trip are understood by both the students and their families. **Please sign and date the form on the next page (both student and parent/guardian) and return to Mr. Ward no later than November 3rd, 2023.**

**2024 MTZ Band/Orchestra/Color Guard NYC Trip
Behavior Expectations Agreement**

I, _____, have read and understand
(print parent/guardian name)

the behavior guidelines for the MTZ Band, Orchestra, and Color Guard trip. My child,
_____, will be participating. I
(print student's name)

understand that I am responsible for payment of any expenses related to a violation of any rule.

I understand that general academic ineligibility, band/orchestra semester grades below a B, and/or unexcused absences from required ensemble performances will lead to ineligibility for the trip. I recognize that if my student is academically ineligible to participate in the trip for any reason that no monies will be refunded. I recognize that the enclosed deposit is non-refundable.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

2024 MTZ Band/Orchestra/Color Guard NYC Trip

Budget Information

The cost to each student will be \$1350, assigning four students to each hotel room. Students will finance their own trip by either making payments (beginning November 3rd, 2023) or by fundraising the same amount each month through individual activities (fundraisers, etc.). The full amount will be due no later than April 5, 2024.

We will keep a spreadsheet record that itemizes each student's total amount paid or funds raised. **Fundraising events will be held throughout the year. Please support these events through participation and asking your friends and families to help support them! We continue to need more workers at the Bingo Hall and this is an easy way to earn money for your student's trip and keep your own money in your pocket!** Please contact us with any thoughts you might have concerning fundraising ideas.

We would like to have at least 10 parent/guardian chaperones for the trip but will take as many as possible based on available motorcoach space. Please complete the Chaperone Commitment Form if you are interested in serving as a chaperone for the trip. If we happen to fill both buses and there are still more people wanting to attend, priority will be given to senior families (then juniors, etc.) **The cost for adults and additional family members is also \$1350 per person.**

The cost of meals has been built into the price for participants. Staff will distribute money for the cost of meals before each meal. Travelers should plan to bring spending money for their souvenirs or emergencies.

Again, our goal is to make this trip a success, and that includes making it financially possible for everyone to go. As fundraising events come up, information will be given to the students immediately. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Mr. Ward (wardp@mtzschoools.org) or Wendy Albrecht (mtzboosterpresident@outlook.com) by email or call the band office at 864-2363.

Payment Schedule

November 3, 2023 - \$250 deposit

December 1, 2023 - \$220

January 5, 2024 - \$220

February 2, 2024 - \$220

March 1, 2024 - \$220

April 5, 2024 - \$220 or remaining balance

**Mt. Zion High School Band/Orchestra/Color Guard
NYC Trip 2024 Trip Commitment Form**

In order for the trip to be successful, it is important that each member fully commits to the processes that will help pay for it. After reading this packet of information, we request that each participating student return this form below along with the non-refundable \$250 deposit (checks payable to MTZ Band Boosters) needed for each family member planning to attend.

I, _____, have read the enclosed information and give
(Print Parent/Guardian Name)

my child permission to participate in the Mt. Zion High School Band and Orchestra

and Color Guard New York City Trip. My child, _____,
(Print Student's Name)

will be participating and understands that he/she will be responsible for payment (through fundraising and/or personal funds) of the total bill amount, \$1350, by April 5, 2024. Enclosed is the non-refundable \$250 security deposit.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

_____ *Please deduct the deposit of \$250 from my student's student account.
(This can only be done for students. Chaperones cannot use the student account.)*

Chaperone Commitment Form

I plan to chaperone the New York City trip from April 18, 2024 - April 23, 2024. I understand that I need to pay the \$1350 following the payment schedule below and that I can not use my student's Band Boosters account. I acknowledge that I will ride the bus with the students and help manage their behavior, including making sure they are behaving appropriately and keeping the bus clean. I recognize that as a volunteer in close contact with students for an extended period of time, I will complete the process of MTZ School Board approval, which includes a background check. I will be in charge of a small group of students during the trip as we explore New York City. I will ensure that they are to specific locations on time and prepared. I understand that the students need to follow the rules listed above throughout the whole trip. Any major behavioral issues will be referred to Mr. Ward. My non-refundable \$250 deposit is included with this form.

Payment Schedule

November 3, 2023 - \$250 deposit
December 1, 2023 - \$220
January 5, 2024 - \$220
February 2, 2024 - \$220
March 1, 2024 - \$220
April 5, 2024 - \$220 or remaining balance

Chaperone Printed Name

Date

Chaperone Signature

Date

TENTATIVE NYC TRIP ITINERARY

Thursday, 4/18/24 - DEPART FOR NYC

Departure in the afternoon. Travel overnight.

Friday 4/19/24

Statue of Liberty

Ellis Island

Battery Park

9/11 Memorial and Museum

One World Observatory

Pizza party at Hotel

Saturday 4/20/24

Central Park

Chelsea Market

Performance at USS Intrepid

Tour USS Intrepid

Times Square

Sunday 4/21/24

NYC Tour

Broadway Show

Monday, 4/22/24

Today Show

Lincoln Center Tour

Lunch at Ellen's Stardust Diner

Radio City Music Hall Tour

Rockefeller Plaza

NYC Harbour Tour Cruise

Depart for MTZ. Travel overnight.

Tuesday, 4/23/24

Return to MTZ in mid-afternoon.