

August 28, 2018

Dear Acappella Choir Parents and Students:

Well, the time is almost here for the annual BIG TRIP to the Kansas City Renaissance Festival! Enclosed is some important information about the trip and activities. We will be staying at The Great Wolf Lodge off of Hwy 435 in Kansas City. The Hotel/Indoor Water Park Resort is located adjacent to the Kansas City Speedway, Nebraska Furniture Mart and Cabela's Foremost Outfitters, and is about 15 minutes from the RenFest grounds.

The total cost per student to participate will be \$150.00. This fee includes: room, admission to the water park, one meal at Cici's Pizza and transportation on a charter bus. The full payment is due on Wednesday September 19, 2018. The students will have opportunities to participate in fundraising events to raise 100% of this fee. This year, students may pay for their trip with fundraiser money from their past sales (which will be noted in their individual Charms accounts). Students will receive additional information about fundraising in rehearsals.

If your child will be using money in his or her account to pay for the trip, please send a note to school with your child. Charms is being redone and is currently unavailable to log into. If you would like to know the balance of your students account please send an email to [agibbclark@highlandcusd5.org](mailto:agibbclark@highlandcusd5.org) and I will reply with the balance.

The first order of business for the trip is to secure adult chaperones for the Renaissance festival trip. Eight or more adult chaperones will be needed. Chaperone duties include:

1. Being at the renaissance festival both days when the kids are there, and supervising.
2. Having a group of kids and hotel rooms of which you will be responsible to keep track.
3. "Taping" the kids into their rooms at night, checking on the room tape once during the night, and un-taping rooms in the morning.
4. Taking roll on the bus.
5. Being a responsible adult that the students can go to with problems or requests.
6. Supervising at the water park.

Rooming is provided to chaperones at no charge for the weekend, as long as they are willing to stay in one of the two 6-person suites that have been reserved (a cost-saver). We can have either 6 women in one room and 6 men in the other, or all 12 chaperones must be of the same gender. If you and/or your spouse would like to chaperone but would like to reserve your own rooms for the weekend at your own expense, just let us know. We have reserved extra rooms at the group rate, and I will release them on a first-pay basis. Please note: If you are paying for your own room, call the Great Wolf Lodge at 913-299-7001 no later than September 5. Just ask for a reservation with the Highland High School block or give them this code 1810HIGH. All rooms sleep six and will include water park passes for up to six. If you pay for your own room and act as a chaperone, you will still be expected to perform your chaperone responsibilities. The cost of attending the Renaissance Festival is also included for chaperones (except for food and spending money).

Families and non-chaperoning parents are also encouraged and welcome to attend. If you wish to get the Highland High School room rate, call Great Wolf and tell them you are with the school or use the group code, 1810HIGH. The group rate is \$136.99 plus tax per night. The resort fee has been waived. All rooms must be reserved no later than September 5. If Great Wolf is too pricey, there are rooms still available at the Holiday Inn Express in Bonner Springs (913-721-5300). We always love to have a big crowd of "Highland Groupies" to support the kids as they perform. If you are interested in being a chaperone for the trip, please send the form below indicating that desire. If you are interested in volunteering in another capacity, please contact Deb Miller, our Highland Choral Parents Association President. If you have further questions, please contact Mr. Gibb-Clark at (618)- 654-7131, extension 4167.

As always, thank you for your support for the choral programs!

Sincerely,

Mr. Gibb-Clark and the Choir Parents Group

In an effort to ensure letters make it home this year, please fill out the form below and return to Mr. Gibb-Clark **immediately, regardless of your willingness to chaperone. This form must be returned by Friday August 31.**

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Student's name\_\_\_\_\_

**I have received this letter and my child will go on the trip.**

I understand that payments must be made in a timely manner and that anyone withdrawing from the trip after September 10, 2018 will be held liable for the entire cost, as all costs associated with the trip are divided equally among all students. I also understand that **all previous debts** to the choir program **must be cleared** before my child may attend the trip.

Parent please sign\_\_\_\_\_

The following is only for parents interested in chaperoning (please check all that apply):

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I want to be a chaperone. I will stay in one of the two group rooms.

Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Name:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I want to chaperone, but I want a room of my own. I will call Great Wolf Lodge and make reservations. **I understand this must be done before September 5.**