

STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL BAND

14555 Fern
Houston, Texas 77079
713-251-3463
www.stratfordband.com

David McArthur-Director

Suzanne Thompson-Director

STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL BAND ORLANDO TRIP FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 1, 2010

Dear Parents and Students,

The time is near for our departure to Orlando. The information in this packet should answer most questions that you have. This packet includes the following information:

Itinerary (Parent's copy, students will be given one on the trip)
Flight Information
General Information
Rules and Regulations
Parent/ Guardian Permit
Checklist

Read, reread, and read again **ALL** of the information before going on the trip, including the rules and behavior requirements. Please call with any questions several days before the trip. All forms need to be returned to me by Friday, February 19, 2010. If your medical form needs to be updated, turn in a new notarized form with your permission slip. **Please do be not late!** Students must be academically eligible in **ALL** classes at the time of the trip or they will be unable to participate. All eligibility issues, incompletes, eligibility waivers, etc. must be taken care of prior to the trip; It is the student's responsibility to take care of these items. We will be unable to give refunds at this point for any reason. Check email often preceding the trip for last minute changes. If you have any questions, feel free to call or E-mail. **NOTE:** After the last deposit was paid, continental added \$10 fee to the round trip cost of transporting luggage. If necessary, an additional fee will need to be collected prior to the prior to departure for this, or any other fees that may be imposed.

Sincerely,

David McArthur

**STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL BAND
ORLANDO TRIP
FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 1, 2010**

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please read carefully **ALL** of the information in this packet. Any changes in times, procedures, etc. will be announced in class, emailed or posted on the band web site. (see header on top of page one) If you have any questions, call Mr. McArthur at 713-251-3463 (best times - 8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.) Questions and concerns are easier to deal with a week or two prior to the trip than the morning of departure!!!!

BAND DIRECTORS AND CHAPERONES:

David McArthur
Leigh Meineke
Nancy Naumann

Susan Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Caudle
Mr. and Mrs. Danny Gex

Each room will be assigned a chaperone. You will check in several times each day while visiting theme parks. If you have any questions, ask a director or chaperone.

SECURITY: A security guard will be hired specifically for the Stratford Band and will be on duty each evening from approximately 11:00 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.

IDENTIFICATION – Make sure that your Student ID, Drivers License, etc. are up to date. You must have a proper ID to fly by air. You will not be allowed to get on the bus to the airport if your ID is not with you, or is not current.

BUSES: We will take school buses from Stratford High School to Bush Intercontinental Airport, then from the airport back to Stratford. Mears Transportation will provide bus service in Orlando.

LUGGAGE AND CLOTHING: You will be allowed to take one large suitcase, or carry on size suitcase. All luggage must conform to Continental Airlines requirements, which at this writing are 50 pounds (23 kg) and a maximum outside dimension of 62 inches (157 cm) for suitcases. Outside dimension of a bag is equal to the width + height + depth of the bag added together. Please visit Continental airlines website (<http://www.continental.com/web/en-US/content/travel/baggage/default.aspx>) for up to date information on luggage; this tends to change often. You may choose to take a carry on size suitcase (see website for current dimensions). **NO additional** carry on's other than your instrument will be allowed. Label all items with your name and the following:

Stratford High School, 14555 Fern, Houston, TX. (Labels will be provided).

You will not need any formal clothing or band uniforms. No clothing with inappropriate slogans, pictures, etc. will be allowed. Check the weather forecast prior to packing your suitcase. Be prepared for cold or warm weather. You may take a purse if necessary. You will **NOT** be able to take a backpack on the

plane. If you need a backpack for the trip, make sure that it fits in your suitcase. Small radios with headphones are ok, jam boxes are not. PS. Some instruments will be checked as luggage, make sure your instrument insurance is current! You are responsible for your personal equipment, or school equipment that you checked out.

HOMEWORK: It is your responsibility to talk to all of your teachers **PRIOR** to the trip. Any missed work will need to be made up in a timely manner.

HOTEL INFORMATION: We will be staying at the Hawthorn Suites. Check your room carefully for anything that is damaged and report it to your chaperone. You will be responsible for any damage that occurs in your room. The hotel has a swimming pool; you may swim if time permits!

PHONES: Students will need to use pay phones or cell phones when calling home; the hotel phones will not be available for outgoing calls. Arrange your long distance needs prior to the trip.

MEDICATION: All prescription medication and nonprescription medication will be turned in to one of the band directors prior to the trip. The medication must be in the original container, appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician.

MEALS: On Thursday's departure, students should plan on packing a lunch or eating at the airport, there are no meals served on the plane. The Hawthorn Suites has a breakfast buffet each morning. Included in the trip package is 1 meal coupon for each of the 3 Disney Parks. For additional meals, plan on spending \$10 - \$20 inside the Disney Parks. On Monday, lunch will be own your own at the airport. See the itinerary for further details. **NOTE:** If you have any special dietary needs, please let Mr. McArthur know as soon as possible to see if other food items are available.

CURFEW: Everyone will be in their own room each night by 11:00 p.m. Do not come out of your room for any reason after room check. **Visitation to rooms of members of the opposite sex is not allowed at any time.** Lights are to be out by 12:00 p.m. Any changes will be announced by your directors.

DISNEY PASSES: You will be issued a three day Disney pass on Friday morning. You will be responsible for the pass the entire trip. Write down the number of your pass and keep it in a safe place in your hotel so that it can be replaced if lost. You also need to write your name on the ticket. If you lose the pass and do not have the number, it cannot be replaced. **YOU MAY NOT PARK HOP DURING THIS TRIP!**

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Hawthorn Suites – 407-597-5000

Tour-rific of Texas 800-829-9505 (voice mail service checked periodically day and night)

Continental Airlines – 800-523-3273 or 800-784-4444

SBISD Police -713-984-9805

Continental Automated Flight Information - 800-784-4444

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Remember that you are representing Stratford High School, and Spring-Branch I.S.D, on this trip. Many people put a lot of time, effort, and trust into making this trip possible. Do not let them down by causing problems. Failure to follow rules and schedules makes the trip less enjoyable for everyone. **THE CONSEQUENCES OF BAD BEHAVIOR ARE THAT YOU WILL BE SENT HOME AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE, POSSIBLE REMOVAL FROM THE BAND PROGRAM, AND FACE SEVERE DISCIPLINARY ACTION UPON YOUR RETURN TO SCHOOL!**

All students will be under the supervision of the directors and chaperones. Each room will be checked by a chaperone. Follow the directions of the chaperones without question! You are expected to be polite and courteous to the chaperones. Remember, without chaperones, there would be no trip.

No consumption or possession of narcotics, illegal drugs, and illegal materials, or any alcoholic beverages by any Stratford band member is permitted. Use or possession of tobacco is prohibited. Leaving an amusement park without permission is not permitted. **ANY STUDENT VIOLATING THESE RULES WILL BE SENT HOME IMMEDIATELY AT PARENT'S EXPENSE!** If the student commits any other major violation, such as breaking the law, repeatedly failing to follow instructions, etc. he/she will also be sent home at his/her own expense. Rooms, suitcases, etc. may be checked at any time.

Visitation to rooms of members of the opposite sex is not allowed. **STUDENTS VIOLATING THIS RULE WILL BE SENT HOME IMMEDIATELY!**

Check your rooms for damage immediately upon check in. Report any damage to your chaperone. Students assigned to the room will pay for any damage that occurs in the rooms.

Curfews will be announced daily by Mr. McArthur. Do not violate the curfew. If you violate the curfew, your parents will be called immediately and you will be subject to being sent home. In the event of an emergency, contact your chaperone. Curfew will generally be from 11:00 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.

Show respect for all trip participants by being on time for all events. Failure to do so causes the trip to be less enjoyable for everyone.

Stay in groups of 3 or more at all locations. Reminders will be given often concerning times, etc.

If in doubt, use common sense, or some other referential. If you do not think it is ok, it probably isn't. If in doubt, ask a chaperone.

Students are expected to conform to all Spring-Branch I.S.D. and Stratford High School rules concerning trips and general behavior

**SPRING BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMIT**

(return this page by Friday, February 19, 2010)

I/we hereby give consent for the above student to participate in the Orlando Trip February 25 – March 1, 2010 with the Stratford High School Band. My child and I have read and understand the trip information, and understand the information concerning behavior, alcohol and drug use or possession, use or possession of tobacco. It is understood that possession of these items, inability to follow instructions, or any other major violation of the rules will result in the student being sent home at his/her own expense. I also understand that my child must be academically eligible at the time of the trip according to state, district, and campus guidelines.

It is understood that even though every precaution will be made to safeguard all students and his/her possessions, the possibility of an accident still remains. Neither Stratford High School, the Stratford Band, the Stratford Band Booster Club, nor the school officials or chaperones assume any liability in case an accident occurs.

Student Name _____ Name of Parent/Guardian _____
(print) (print)

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____

Date _____

I need to update medical/insurance information from the fall of 2009-10.
(Please initial) Yes _____ No _____

If the answer is yes, fill out a new medical form and have it notarized and turned in by Thursday, February 18, 2010.

MAKE A COPY OF YOUR DRIVERS LICENSE, AND/OR OTHER IDENTIFICATION AND TURN IT IN WITH THIS FORM. You may copy your ID in the band hall

CHECKLIST

- Instrument and accessories
- Bathing Suit (for hotel)
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Money
- Jacket (check weather report prior to departure)
- Watch (have one at all times)
- Lunch for Departure (see above)
- Photo ID (needed for airline check in) I would suggest bringing both your student ID and drivers license, passport, etc.

Make your own checklist

Stratford High School Band
Orlando, Florida
FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 1, 2010

Thursday, February 25

- 3:15 p.m. Meet in the Band Hall with all luggage, instruments, etc. Do not plan on going home after school. You must bring all items needed for the trip to school in the morning. (Very important that you are on time)
- 5:00 PM Group check-in at Bush Intercontinental Airport
- 7:10 PM **Continental Flight #1586** departs for Orlando (snack)
- 10:30 PM Arrive Orlando; collect luggage, load buses and depart for Hotel
- 11:45 PM Hotel check-in at **Hawthorn Suites, 8303 Palm Parkway, Orlando, FL.**
- 12:30 PM Room check; Lights out!

Friday, February 26 *(You will received a Disney Meal Coupon Today)*

- 7:00 AM Rise and Shine!
- 9:00 AM Load buses and depart for *Epcot*. **You will need your instruments today.**
- 1:00 P.M. Meet Disney HOST AT Coffee Bar in Italy**
- 1:30 PM *Disney's You're Instrumental Workshop* in Backstage Rehearsal Hall
- 8:30 PM Meet in Mexico to watch **"IllumiNations: Reflections of Earth"**
- 9:00 PM **"IllumiNations: Reflections of Earth"- Fireworks and Light Show**
- 9:30 PM Walk to bus parking lot and load buses
- 11:00 PM Room check; Lights out

Saturday, February 27 *(You will received a Disney Meal Coupon Today)*

- 6:30 AM Wake up
- 8:30 AM Load buses and depart for *Magic Kingdom* (stay until park closes)
- 8:00 PM **"Wishes" Fireworks Spectacular**
- 9:00 PM Meet at front of park and take monorail to parking lot
- 8:30 PM Load buses to return to hotel
- 11:00 PM Room check; Lights out!

Sunday, February 28

- 7:45 AM Breakfast at the hotel
 - 9:00 AM Load buses and depart for *Disney's hollywoodStudios*
 - 8:00 PM Load buses to return to hotel
 - 11:00 PM Room check; Lights out!
- (Rooms need to be clean tonight at check in, Suit cases need to be packed, other than what you need for Monday)

Monday, March 1

- 8:00 AM Wake up
- 8:30 AM Breakfast at the hotel (be prepared to turn in keys to chaperones)
- 11:00 PM Load buses and depart for airport
- 11:45 AM Check-in at Orlando Airport
- 2:50 PM **Continental Flight #687** departs for Houston
- 4:22 PM Arrive in Houston at Bush Intercontinental Airport (Lunch on your own today at the airport.
- 5:30 PM Pickup Time at Stratford High School. (Call parents from Airport for exact pickup Time) If you wish to pick up your child at the airport, you must come into the baggage claim area and check out with a Mr. McArthur or

Mrs. Thompson. Please give the director a written note indicating that you will picking up your child at the airport.

Continental Automated Flight Information - 800-784-4444

