

# Mt. Vernon High School

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**Brooke Tharp**  
Principal

*Engage, Educate and Empower Today's Students*

**Stan Wilkison**  
Assistant Principal

**MacKenzie Harrell**  
Assistant Principal

**Charles Hutchins**  
Assistant Principal

**Kacie Grimm**  
Director of Counseling

**Brad King**  
Dean of Students



February 20, 2025

Board of Trustees,

The board approved an overnight and out-of-state field for the band to travel to Disney World. The band would like to change their flight date and leave one day earlier. This will not impact the cost, but it will allow for better flight times, a non-stop flight, and for the band to travel together on one plane. The updated request is attached.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Brooke Tharp

***"Defending the Shield Daily"***

**8112 N 200 W Fortville, Indiana 46040**

**Telephone 317/485-3131 Fax 317/485-3154**

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## **Board Policy #C500 - FIELD AND OTHER CORPORATION-SPONSORED TRIPS OUT OF STATE/OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST**



### **CHECKLIST**

**WHO:** Mt. Vernon High School Marching Band

**WHAT:** Walt Disney World (Parade Performance)

**WHEN:** Wednesday April 23 (8pm) - Sunday April 27, 2025

Due to the high cost of airline tickets, it is more cost effective to leave on Wednesday night than Thursday morning. Students will NOT miss any additional school and will not incur any additional costs from the original quoted cost. Breakfast is included at the hotel on Thursday morning. The trip itinerary will not change, other than arriving on Wednesday night.

**WHERE:** Walt Disney World  
Orlando, FL 32836

**CHAPERONES:** Chaperones will be identified if the trip is approved. We will utilize at least 1 chaperone per 10 students. We estimate there will be 100-130 students traveling, therefore we will require at a minimum 13 parent chaperones. With the traveling band staff and parent chaperones, we will have approximately 20 chaperones with the students at all times. (I do believe we will have more parents/chaperones traveling with us, but we will travel with no less than the number indicated above).

*\*all chaperones will have a background check on file with MVCSC prior to departure or will be deemed ineligible to attend the trip*

**Teacher:** Dr. Kathryn Spangler and Mr. Michael Ahearn

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**Tour Directors:** Chris Forsythe, Music Travel Consultants

**TRANSPORTATION:** We will fly from Indianapolis to Orlando (airline to be identified when tickets are purchased, if approved) and we will travel around Walt Disney World and Orlando via charter bus.

**COST:** The cost of the trip depends on how many travelers participate in the trip. If we take 100 people on the trip, the cost will be approximately \$1547. This cost will include airfare, hotel, all meals, Disney park tickets, etc. All inclusions are identified on the attached itinerary draft.

**WHY:** Students will present a professional performance in an environment that provides a high-quality show experience with great attention to detail. This opportunity gives students life experiences that cannot be delivered in the classroom. Performing in a new, unfamiliar venue will require our students to adapt to change, while still providing an excellent musical performance.

The trip will also foster a sense of teamwork and camaraderie within our band. Students will build strong relationships with peers and teachers through the collaboration required to prepare and perform on a national stage. Significant opportunities will be presented for students to think critically, collaborate, build stronger social awareness, as well as create a new jumping off point for recruitment. Beyond the performance, each day in a Disney park students will be exposed to many different musical genres and be surrounded by hundreds of professional musicians. Our students will, perhaps most importantly, build great memories and bonds with their peers.

**MEDICAL RELEASES/PARENT PERMISSION ON FILE:** Yes. The band will travel with several binders of student medical cards and will leave a binder with the first aid center at each park upon arrival.

**SAFETY AND SUPERVISION PROVISIONS:** Students will be divided into groups of 6-10 and assigned to a chaperone. Students will check in with their assigned chaperone throughout each day as well as the band director. Group communication through the Band app will be used throughout the trip to provide timely updates and instructions. No students will be permitted to travel anywhere alone and students will be required to be in their hotel rooms at a given time. Rooms will then be checked by chaperones and attendance will be taken prior to leaving any location.

If the trip is approved, there will be an initial informational meeting outlining the trip, costs, and expectations. Additionally, another meeting a week prior to the trip will be held to review the itinerary and reinforce the expectations of the trip. All school rules will apply throughout the duration of the trip, and any student found in possession of drugs, alcohol, or vape will be sent home at the expense of the parents.

**Trip Itinerary:** Please see the attached itinerary, provided by Music Travel Consultants. This itinerary is subject to change once Disney assigns Mt. Vernon a performance day/time.

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