Washington DC Parent Introductory Meeting Thursday, October 25th

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Important Information

New Civic-Education Non-Profit: Close Up Foundation

Trip Date: June 11th - 14th

Tour: 4 Days & 3 Nights

Price: $1325

Travel: We will fly to and from DC

Civics Connection: student centered company that embeds numerous civics activities throughout the trip

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Changes to the trip

- The trip will be the J Term activity for all 8th graders
- Dates will coincide with J Term at the MS
- Civics focused trip is more in line with Project Based Learning
- Price of the trip has increased from last year
- Our time on tour has increased by one day
- Overall duration of the trip has decreased by one day from trips in the past
- More time on learning this year for 8th graders
- A great way to culminate middle school for 8th grade students

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WESTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
8TH GRADE WASHINGTON, DC PROGRAM

Close Up: History and Mission

- Non-profit, non-partisan civic education organization founded in 1971.
- Over 800,000 student and teacher alums.
- We welcomed 20,000+ students and teachers to DC this year.
- Mission: To inform, inspire, and empower students to become more active citizens.

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Overall Program Curriculum

Central Question: What can we learn from history to become better citizens today?

Our Program…

- Uses DC as a living classroom to explore our democracy
- Builds on Weston's social studies and humanities curriculum
- Operates on a small-group model (2 program instructors per bus)
- Encourages students to learn and debate with their peers
- Gets students thinking about important foundational questions like "What is the proper size and scope of government?"

Program Highlights

- **Thomas Jefferson, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Martin Luther King Jr. Memorials**: Examine and debate the size & scope of government.
- **War Memorials:** Explore the role citizens played during each conflict at the Vietnam, Korean, WWII and Lincoln Memorials.
- **Smithsonian Museums:** Explore one of the many world-renowned Smithsonian museums
- **Holocaust Memorial Museum:** Discuss issues of responsibility in the face of mass atrocities
- **National Archives:** Learn about our nation's history through documents and records.

Program Highlights

- **Mock Congress and Capitol Hill Day:** Participate in an in-depth simulation of the legislative process followed by a visit to Capitol Hill and a meeting with legislators.
- **Arlington National Cemetery:** Visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and witness the Changing of the Guard
- **African American Museum of History and Culture:** Visit the newest Smithsonian on the National Mall
- **Domestic Issues Debate**: Participate in an interactive debate with DC policymakers
- **Social Evening** of Bowling and Games in Georgetown**!**

Supervision and Security

- 24/7 supervision including a Program Leader, Program Instructors and Night Monitors on each hotel hallway from 10pm – 6am
- Program Instructors have 120+ hours of training, certified in CPR/First Aid, and criminal background checks
- Partnership with Georgetown Medical Center
- Students wear Close Up name tags with an emergency hotline number that is always staffed by Close Up

Price and What's Included

Total student price is **$1325**, which includes:

- Nonstop Roundtrip Airfare from Boston
- Hotel accommodations (4 students per room)
- Three meals per day starting with lunch on Tuesday and ending with lunch on Friday
- Academic materials and instruction
- All in-town transportation
- 24-hour supervision including night monitors
- All admission fees, tips and gratuities
- Secondary medical coverage and access to Georgetown University Medical Center
- Close Up backpack, water bottle, and guidebook

What's not included?

- Travel insurance is optional but STRONGLY encouraged. Our recommended provider is Travel Guard, but families may choose their own preference.

Important Dates/Deadlines

Trip Dates: June 11th - 14th, 2019

Payments:

- $400 non-refundable deposit due November 21st, 2018
- $400 second payment due January 31st, 2019
- Final payment due April 10th, 2019
- The final cancellation deadline is April 10th, 2019. All payments are non-refundable and non-transferable after this date. Should you request a refund prior to April 10th 2019, Close Up will refund any amounts paid over the initial $400.

Tomorrow, Close Up will email you a student participant ID and password to enroll your student at **CloseUp.org** and make a deposit payment.

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Please email any questions to Close Up at
programsupport@closeup.org