

# Pelican Rapids High School 2014 Band Trip



## New York City



## March 24-31

### **Student and Parent Informational Packet**

#### TOUR DIRECTORS

Tammy Jo Sutton  
John Olson

#### DIRECTOR

Sean Fitzsimmons

#### CHAPERONES

Kevin Bakken  
Darren Berube  
John Gorton  
Terra Fitzsimmons  
Denise Evenson  
Sue Monson  
Deb Sjostrom  
Paula Waller  
Kim Weishair

On Monday, March 24, 82 band students and adults will depart for New York City, New York to represent the Pelican Rapids community, school district, and the state of Minnesota. Undoubtedly, this experience will remain with students and adults for a long time to come.

To help insure a quality experience for everyone involved, we have compiled the following information that will hopefully answer any questions you may have. An 82 member team need not present any problems, provided some common sense ideals are adhered to.

During this trip our band will be one organization consisting of 72 individuals. In our performances and day-to-day conduct, each one of us will represent ourselves first; however, we also represent our families, school, community, and the state of Minnesota. No one individual has the right to jeopardize or detract from what we have worked so hard as a group and community to attain.

Over the past several years, students from Pelican Rapids have earned the reputation of being one of the finest and classiest high school student groups to enter restaurants, hotels, and other public places. It is mandatory that all students adhere to these strict standards of conduct. We have been proud of your hard work and accomplishments so far. Let's all work together to make sure our group continues this outstanding reputation!

## Departure

Upon arrival at PRHS, students will bring all luggage and carry-on items into the band room. Your first step is to get all of your items in one spot to make sure you have everything. It is recommended that suitcases and all instrument cases be secured with bungee cords, twine, string, or luggage belts with clips. We don't want an instrument case to be jarred open during the bus ride damaging the instrument or your suitcase opening damaging your personal items. You will also want to double check that all items are labeled with a luggage tag containing your name, school, address, and phone number.

When loading the bus, we will place all instruments, and music together in one area of the bus to facilitate unloading and loading. When we unload for our master class performance you will not have access to your luggage, only your instrument. Therefore you must keep your band folder in your case or carry it on the bus. Drivers and chaperones will help you with this.

We will place all of the non-band instrument luggage (suitcases) together in the rest of the space on both buses. Drivers and chaperones will help you with this as well. Remember however, your main piece of luggage will be stored under the bus during the ride and you will not have access to it until we unload at the hotel in Indiana.

Whenever you load anything onto a bus, make sure you see, "with your own eyes", that that particular item is loaded onto the bus. Never set items next to the bus with the assumption that someone else will load it onto the bus for you, even if there are other items already there. Sometimes the bus drivers will take control of the loading process. That is fine, but still watch with "your own eyes" that it gets loaded onto the bus.

After you load your luggage and instrument you need to go to the "bank". Deb Sjostrom and Sue Monson will be our trip "bankers" . Deposit most of your cash into your private trip bank account kept by our bankers. This will prevent you from losing your money or getting it stolen. Keep enough money to get you through the road trip, and for your first day in New York City. Each day during breakfast, banking hours will be established in the hotel and students can withdraw the money recommended and necessary to get you through that day. The "banks" will be secured in the hotel safe when we leave the hotel so students will not have access the bank after breakfast.

After the luggage is loaded onto the coaches and your money is deposited in the bank, you may board the bus. The first 3 rows of seats on each bus will be reserved for chaperones. There is always potential for drama here so do all you can to avoid it. You will be changing seats daily, so if you are not happy with your seat for one day, you should be fine.

# Bus Lists

## Bus One

Sean Fitzsimmons (communicator)  
Darren Berube  
Terra Fitzsimmons  
Sue Monson  
Denise Evenson  
Michael Halbakken  
Payton Johnson  
Hunter Gray  
Jason Stadum  
Taylor Kekaha  
TJ Dahl  
Terra Larson  
Addy Monson  
Ariel Martinson  
Kenzie Husted  
Kallia Rinkel  
Emma Ballard  
Hally Evenson  
Kayleigh Kubitz  
Gabe Murillo  
Ashlyn French  
Kaylee Resch  
Alex Bekkerus  
Reilly Knorr  
Travis Haugen  
Logan Knorr  
Chloe Evenson  
Charlotte Johnson  
Carly Black  
Grace Forsgren  
Erin Christenson  
Brianna Harthun  
Madalin Berube  
Ashley Johnson  
Cassie Nelson  
Abby Strand  
Abby Fresonke  
Britton Erickson  
Shelby Nelson  
Jarrid Johnston  
Cody Berndt

Paul Strand  
Ryan Bakken  
Jordan Weishair  
Mason Berube  
Esther Saavedra  
Brandon Hench  
Summer Dorr  
Megan Albright  
Reed Stengrim  
Emma Sjostrom  
Keelia Rockstead  
Megan Hanson  
Daisy Zavala  
Natalie Wontor  
Sydney Haugrud  
Tyler Bakken  
Keidra Anderson  
Trung Lam  
Peter Svare  
Nick Thompson  
Kris Olson  
Josh Kunz  
Grant Lontz  
Thomas Brynildson  
Ashlee Olson  
Jamie Korynta  
Aaron Nelson  
Blaine Gorton  
Daniel Halbakken  
Nathan Sillerud  
Lincoln Haiby  
Samantha Waller  
Madeline Sytsma  
Mackenzie Erickson

## Bus Two

Paula Waller (communicator)  
Kim Weishair (communicator)  
Deb Sjostrom  
John Gorton  
Kevin Bakken

# Room Lists

## Girls Room 1 (Terra Fitzsimmons)

Cassie Nelson  
Kallia Rinkel  
Emma Ballard  
Ashley Johnson

## Girls Room 2 (Terra Fitzsimmons)

Erin Christenson  
Grace Forsgren  
Madalin Berube  
Brianna Harthun

## Girls Room 3 (Denise Evenson)

Hally Evenson  
Abby Strand  
Abby Fresonke  
Kayleigh Kubitz

## Girls Room 4 (Denise Evenson)

Ashlyn French  
Chloe Evenson  
Alex Bekkerus  
Charlotte Johnson

## Girls Room 5 (Sue Monson)

Addy Monson  
Terra Larson  
Kenzie Husted  
Ariel Martinson

## Girls Room 6 (Sue Monson)

Carly Black  
Shelby Nelson  
Kaylee Resch  
Megan Alright

## Girls Room 7 (Deb Sjostrom)

Esther Saavedra  
Keidra Anderson  
Sydney Haugrud  
Emma Sjostrom

## Girls Room 8 (Deb Sjostrom)

Ashlee Olson  
Mackenzie Erickson  
Jaime Korynta  
Summer Dorr

## Girls Room 9 (Paula Waller)

Lincoln Haiby  
Samantha Waller  
Madeline Sytsma

## Girls Room 10 (Paula Waller)

Daisy Zavala  
Natalie Wontor  
Keelia Palmer  
Megan Hanson

## Boys Room 1 (Kevin Bakken)

Aaron Nelson  
Tyler Bakken  
Peter Svare  
Britton Erickson

## Boys Room 2 (Kevin Bakken)

Jordan Weishair  
Paul Strand  
Ryan Bakken  
Mason Berube

## Boys Room 3 (Darren Berube)

Taylor Kekaha  
Payton Johnson  
Michael Halbakken  
Gabe Murrillo

## Boys Room 4 (Darren Berube)

Jarrid Johnston  
Trung Lam  
Brandon Hench

Cody Berndt

Boys Room 5 (John Gorton)

Reilly Knorr

Logan Knorr

Travis Haugen

Thomas Brynildson

Boys Room 6 (John Gorton)

Daniel Halbakken

Blain Gorton

Nathan Sillerud

Boys Room 7 (Kim Weishair)

TJ Dahl

Jason Stadum

Hunter Gray

Reed Stengrim

Boys Room 8 (Kim Weishair)

Josh Kunz

Kris Olson

Grant Lontz

Nick Thompson

Adult Room 1

Sean Fitzsimmons

Terra Fitzsimmons

Adult Room 2

John Gorton

Darren Berube

Adult Room 3

Kim Weishair

Kevin Bakken

Adult Room 4

Sue Monson

Deb Sjostrom

Adult Room 5

Paula Waller

Denise Evenson

# Packing Checklist

(Remember to leave room for some souvenirs!!)

Your suitcase should contain:

☐ 6 days worth of comfortable traveling clothes (typical comfortable school clothing, following the school dress code always). Bring a variety of warmer weather and cooler weather clothes.

☐ Two VERY NICE outfits for Broadway performances of Wicked and Les Miserables:

Boys need a dress shirt (no T-shirts) with tie, or sweater, dress pants (no jeans, but Dockers style acceptable), dress socks, and dress shoes (no tennis shoes). Look your best-this is BROADWAY!!!

Girls wear a dress or skirt, dress pants (no jeans), dress shirt, and dress shoes. LOOK NICE, THIS IS A SEMI-FORMAL EVENT!

☐ Pep Band Shirt with black pants, black socks, and black shoes for our performance at Lincoln Center

☐ Swimsuit

☐ Comfortable walking shoes for the days and dress shoes for the shows

☐ Socks and undergarments

☐ Bathroom and cosmetic supplies.

☐ Waterproof jacket

☐ Your music stand (we won't need this until we perform in NYC)

Your carry-on should contain:

- ☐ Phone/ipad/ipod
- ☐ Headphones
- ☐ DVDs PG13 or less for bus ride to watch as group. (Or we could just watch Les Mis over and over again!!)
- ☐ Chargers
- ☐ Books or magazines
- ☐ Board games, card decks for bus bonding
- ☐ Homework!
- ☐ Prescription medications and over the counter medications such as antacid, travel sickness medication, or ibuprofen. All medication needs to be stored in its original, labeled container. (Any medication not stored in the original container must be confiscated.) If you have ever been “car-sick” at all, you should have some travel sickness medication-this has helped many with the longer bus rides.
- ☐ Contact supplies and glasses
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Food for bus ride. Bring fruit, crackers, breakfast bars, chips, puppy chow
- ☐ Beverages for bus ride. Only use resealable containers to avoid spilling.
- ☐ Water bottle for refill every time we stop. Try to drink as much water as possible to avoid getting run down, dehydrated, and sick.
- ☐ Camara or phone for pictures. And take many pictures. The best pictures that will be most meaningful to you are “people pictures”. We have had some students return with a camera full of unidentifiable buildings and nothing else to show their parents and friends. Try to get some that will make the end of trip slide show!
- ☐ Small pillow and blanket for the bus
- ☐ Sweatshirt
- ☐ Your wallet or purse.



Your instrument case should contain:

- ☐ Your band music
- ☐ Your instrument and mouthpiece, plus oils, reeds etc.

## Other Packing Notes

Remember to utilize our banking system. Losing your money could prove to be very disastrous. See above to review how the banking system works.

Luggage should be limited to:

- 1 suitcase or garment bag
- 1 band instrument
- 1 carry-on bag small enough to fit under or above your bus seat. A backpack is perfect.

## Travel Hints

Double check all items whenever we load or unload. Everyone is in charge of their own belongings and should watch to see them get loaded before going on the bus.

Label any items that may be confused with someone else's with your name.

If you are planning on using a cash or credit card (highly used) or traveler's checks (not used as much anymore), be sure you know how to use them.

The PRHS school dress code will be in enforced at all times. Do not bring clothing items with objectionable words or pictures.

All student account money not used for payments for the trip can be withdrawn and used as spending money. Also, money can be transferred from one sibling to the next to create the maximum amount of money for traveling students. Use the "Withdraw Money from Account" form to access this money and turn in by Thursday, March 20. Your money will be transferred to our trip "bankers" into your trip bank account. This form and others will be filled out in March.

All students are required to attend breakfast. A full buffet breakfast will be served in New York each morning in a private room for us. A continental breakfast will be served in Indiana on our way out and back. These all-you-can-eat meals are included in your trip payment. It is recommended that you eat a large breakfast, a smaller lunch (to save money) and a larger supper.

Pick-pocketing is an issue in many large cities including New York. Be sure to carry your wallet in your front pocket. Girls' purses should have the opening next to your body. There

are times when you will want to watch this more closely, notably in Chinatown, Little Italy, and Times Square (to a lesser extent).

Never go anywhere by yourself!! Always travel in groups of 4 or more.

Please show courtesy and consideration to everyone on our trip, especially your peers.

Your adult chaperones and bus drivers are present to help you have a safe, comfortable, and great trip. Keep them informed of any concerns or problems no matter how trivial or seemingly insignificant.

Always show bus drivers respect by walking to the front of the bus to calmly ask him to change the temperature, radio station, etc. Shouting to bus drivers from the back of the bus can seem rude, even if you do not intend to be rude.

Be on time always. Tardiness will not be tolerated.

Plan Ahead. Review your packet and itinerary and be aware of your responsibilities.

Sleep at night and get the rest you need. We will have long, tiring, but very enjoyable days.

If you feel ill, let a chaperone know right away.

To transport and deal with a group of this size requires much PATIENCE on everyone's part. If you get a little crabby, try not to let it show.

Shoes must be worn at all times. We strongly encourage comfortable tennis shoes or walking shoes with socks. You will do a lot of walking.

## Spending Money

We estimate approximately \$10 per meal. This may seem high but it would be better to bring too much than too little. The only other thing you will need to pay for will be snacks and souvenirs. Some meals are included and some will include a \$5 stipend to help you pay. See the daily itinerary for details on which meals are included.

Learn to budget your meals and don't let snacks etc. eat away your meal money. Credit or debit cards will work in many places and are most convenient, however, have some cash on hand as well. For example, when we go bartering in Chinatown, we will be dealing with cash only. Chaperones will help you keep track of this kind of thing as the trip goes on.

Tipping. Know when it is appropriate and when it is not to leave a tip for a waiter or waitress. Chaperones will help remind you of this as we go. Generally, if you go to a "sit down" (non fast-food) style restaurant where a waiter takes your order and delivers your food and beverage, you should include a 15% tip. Sometimes, with groups of 4 or more a tip gets

included automatically. Check your receipt to see if gratuity is included or not. If not, then leave a tip.

## Rules

No one has the right to jeopardize what we have worked so hard as a group to attain.

Any student not complying with the following guidelines can expect a disciplinary reaction. Discipline may range from a simple reprimand to room confinement missing the day's activities, or for flagrant misconduct, being sent home at the individual's expense.

The Minnesota State High School League and Pelican Rapids High School Rules will be maintained on this trip. Absolutely no possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, marijuana, drugs or paraphernalia.

Do not use inappropriate language. It reflects very poorly on you as an individual and us as a group. Please pay particular attention to this, it can instantly make the whole group look unintelligent and immature.

No one is allowed to leave your room after curfew.

No one other than Pelican Rapids students or adults are allowed in your room at any time. You are also not permitted to enter a hotel room other than those occupied by Pelican Rapids students or adults at any time.

Obey all rules set up by the hotel management. This includes swimming pool use, noise, etc. Also, make sure hotel doors are not slammed shut. When entering rooms close the door quietly with your hand. When a door bangs against the frame with the lock out it creates a lot of noise and apparent obnoxiousness.

No running, especially in the halls of the hotels. You may get very excited and feel the sudden need to sprint down the length of the corridor. Please stifle that urge.

For your safety and protection you are required to be with at least three other students at all times. Do not wander off by yourself even when using public restrooms. Stay with several other people at all times. Chaperones will be constantly on the watch for this and will also be glad to be part of your group if you would feel more comfortable.

Be courteous to all adults including bus drivers and chaperones. Absolutely no disrespect will be tolerated.

Shoplifting is stealing. If it happens to you it is your problem and you will deal with the police.

All rooms, luggage, carry-ons, purses, pockets, etc. will be available for inspection at anytime during the trip with or without reasonable cause. Chaperones have a key to each room and access to rooms at any time.

No one will be allowed to sleep in. You all are expected to get up at the specified times, eat a good breakfast, and keep yourselves clean and well groomed.

Whining and other negative behavior will also not be tolerated. You will not be entertained to your liking every minute of this trip. It is an educational trip and intended to give you experiences you may not otherwise get. Please don't be outwardly negative, it brings everyone down with you.

Waiting. There will be times when you will have to wait much longer than expected for certain things to happen, such as the bus to appear, getting off of the bus, or the bus to move, for example. This is one thing that frustrates many people when travelling with a group of this size, however, there are probably legitimate reasons for the delay. This is when you really want to watch the whining.

## Hotel Instructions

Our hotel is a very reputable establishment, full of many respectable guests. Out of courtesy to them, do not make noise or disturb others at any time. Keep voices at a conversation volume at all times. Other guests do not want to pay for a night, only to be kept up by a bunch of screaming high school students!

At curfew times, you must be in your room. At this time and after, no one is allowed to enter your room except chaperones.

It is important that we are not called by the manager because of noise from your room.

We cannot perform when we do not get enough sleep. Without enough sleep people become irritable and short tempered. Please get the sleep you need.

Phones in rooms may be blocked. If you wish to make calls use your cell phones.

Misused, damaged, or stolen hotel property will be paid for by the occupants of the room.

No jumping on beds or other monkey-like behavior.

Keep your room locked at all times, even if you will be back shortly or right across the hall. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.** Know who has the key (2 keys per room). Safeguard and keep track of all personal belongings and valuables.

Do not order food delivery or room service for anything. If we have an evening when we get back early enough to order pizzas, chaperones will let you know, but this is rare as we get back so late most nights.

## Important Addresses and Phone Numbers

### Group Travel Agency:

#### Leisure Time Tours

Tammy Jo Sutton

Leisure Time Tours

763-412-6545

[tammyjo@leisuretimetours.org](mailto:tammyjo@leisuretimetours.org)

#### Sean Fitzsimmons Cell Phone:

218-770-8321

[sfitzsim@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us](mailto:sfitzsim@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us)

#### La Quinta - South Bend

23040 Lincolnway West

South Bend, IN 46628

Phone: (574) 233-3131

#### Holiday Inn Saddle Brook in NJ

129 Pehle Ave.

Saddle Brook, NJ 07663

Phone: 201-845-7800

Fax: 201-845-0238

## Itinerary



### March 24      Monday

4:30 am Load Motorcoaches at school.

5:00 am Depart for New York City (meals enroute on your own).

8:00 am      Master Clinic at St. Cloud State University with St. Cloud State University  
Band Director, Catherine Bushman

9:30 am Depart for Schaumburg, IL.

7:00 pm      Arrive at the Castle for 7:30 pm Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament

9:00 pm Depart for hotel in South Bend, Indiana

11:15 pm      Arrive at hotel in Indiana

### March 25      Tuesday

6:00 am Breakfast at hotel.  
6:30 am Depart for New York City  
7:50 pm Arrive at Time Square New York City  
9:45 pm Depart for hotel.

March 26      Wednesday

7:00 am Breakfast at hotel (included)  
7:30 am Depart for Yankee Stadium. Explore the Bronx  
9:00 am Ride Subway to 51<sup>st</sup> & Lexington  
9:45 am Walk to Rockefeller Center area.  
11:30am      Depart for the Intrepid Aircraft Carrier Museum  
                 Lunch (\$5 meal stipend)  
2:30 pm      Depart for Tour Radio City Music Hall (3:15, 3:30, 3:45 - 30 per group)  
                 Free time to visit St. Patrick's Cathedral, Shop 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, visit Rockefeller  
                 Center and NBC Studios gift shop.  
5:15 pm 5:15 pm Meet across the street from Radio City Music Hall. Walk to **Ellen's Stardust Diner** for dinner (5:30 pm). (5:30 pm). 5:30 pm  
                 Meet at Rockefeller Center. Walk to Times Square. Dinner (\$5 meal  
                 stipend)  
7:10 pm Meet in Times Square and depart for Broadway Play.  
8:00 pm Broadway Play *Les Miserables*  
10:30 pm Return to hotel after show.

March 27      Thursday

7:00 am Breakfast at hotel (included)  
8:30 am Depart for Manhattan.  
10:00 am      Take a walking Tour of Central Park walking by Poets Walk, Bethesda  
                 Fountain, Boat House, Sheep Meadow, Lower Central Park Band shell and  
                 Strawberry Field.  
                 Walk by the Apple store, FAO Schwartz Toy Store and Plaza Hotel  
11:30 am      Depart for Lunch in Greenwich Village (7<sup>th</sup> and Bleeker) (\$5 meal stipend)  
1:15 pm Depart for Lincoln Center  
2:00 pm Performance at Lincoln Center Courtyard Fountain  
2:45 pm Mini tour of Lincoln Center following performance  
3:15 pm Depart for Grand Central Station inside walking tour  
4:30 pm      Walk to Times Square via Bryant Park and New York Library (\$5 meal  
                 stipend)  
7:15 pm Meet at 47<sup>th</sup> and Broadway to walk to the Broadway Play.  
8:00 pm Broadway Play *Wicked*  
10:30 pm Return to hotel.

March 28      Friday

7:30 am Breakfast at hotel (included)  
8:15 am      Arrive at 8:30 am Empire State Building and go to the Observation deck.  
11:00 am Depart for Chelsea Pier.  
11:30 pm      Board Dinner Cruise Hudson and East River (under Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges and up close to Statue of Liberty).  
2:00 pm Depart for Brooklyn Bridge.  
2:30 pm      Walk across Brooklyn Bridge to St. Paul's Chapel (site of 911 recovery efforts). Free time at St. Paul's Chapel.  
3:40 pm      Walk to Trinity Church, Wall Street (Federal Building, Financial District and New York Stock Exchange).  
5:00 pm Entrance to 911 Memorial Site  
6:00 pm Depart for dinner near 911 memorial site (\$5 meal stipend)  
7:30 pm Arrive at Off-Broadway show: Blue Man Group  
8:00 pm      Blue Man Group  
10:00 pm Depart for hotel.

March 29      Saturday

7:30 am      Breakfast at hotel (included)  
8:00 am      Load Motorcoach  
8:15 am      Depart for Manhattan.  
9:00 am      Explore the Carnegie Hall and David Letterman Show area of Broadway.  
9:30 am      Depart for Chinatown and Little Italy. Free time / Shopping in China Town.  
11:45 am Lunch in Little Italy (included).  
12:45 pm Depart for home.  
12:45 pm      Arrive at hotel in South Bend, Indiana

March 30      Sunday

6:45am Breakfast at hotel (included)  
7:15 am Load Motorcoach  
7:25 am Depart for home. --- Travel Day – all meal stops on your own.  
8:00 pm Arrive home.