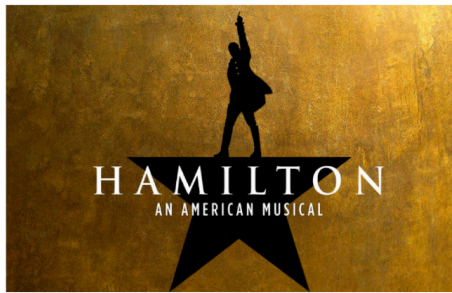


Pelican Rapids High School

2025 Band Trip



New York City March 23-30

Student and Parent Informational Packet

TOUR DIRECTORS:

Karen Holmquist, Jen Anderson

BAND DIRECTOR:

Sean Fitzsimmons

CHAPERONES:

Staci Allmaras, Terra Fitzsimmons, Tami Hanson, Jesse Rockstead, Jill Roisum, Lance Roisum, Dana Syverson

On Sunday, March 28, 50 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 ensure a quality experience for everyone involved, we have compiled the following information that will hopefully answer any questions you may have. A 50 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 50 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 entire 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 the Pelican Rapids Band 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!

Bus List and Attendance Numbers

1 Jesse Rockstead	26 Charlie Larson
2 Zayla Arrow	27 Grady Larson
3 Zayli Arrow	28 Tate Marich
4 Grace Backstrom	29 Keagan Nettetstad-Wynn
5 Jordan Batson	30 Willem Pesch
6 Julianna Borgen	31 Nicholas Rockstead
7 Peyton Borgen	32 Andon Roisum
8 Ellie Carlson	33 Anna Roisum
9 Jaxon Dalman	34 Isabella Sjostrom
10 Megan Guler	35 John Stubbs
11 Emma Hanson	36 Brody Syverson
12 Hunter Hanson	37 Linea Thomas
13 Hayden Haugrud	38 Miren Thomas
14 Sarah Haugrud	39 Lucas VerDorn
15 Braden Henkes	40 Maddyx Vondra
16 Karston Henkes	41 Mariah Weishair
17 Daisy Holl	42 Bryn Welch
18 Arianna Hovland	43 Jack Welch
19 Carlie Hovland	44 Staci Allmaras
20 Maclain Hovland	45 Terra Fitzsimmons
21 Ethan Isaman	46 Tami Hanson
22 Olivia Johnson	47 Jill Roisum
23 Thomas Johnson	48 Lance Roisum
24 Austin Kleinschmidt	49 Dana Syverson
25 Philip Kleinschmidt	50 Sean Fitzsimmons

Room List and Chaperone Assignments

Girls 1-Jill

Mariah Weishair
Sarah Haugrud
Anna Roisum
Grace Backstrom

Girls 2-Terra

Hayden Haugrud
Linea Thomas
Miren Thomas

Girls 3-Jill

Ellie Carlson
Ariana Hovland
Megan Guler

Girls 4-Tami

Olivia Johnson
Emma Hanson
Zayli Arrow
Zayla Arrow

Girls 5-Dana

Carlie Hovland
Bella Sjostrom
Bryn Welch

Girls 6-Tami

Jordan Batson
Julianna Borgen
Daisy Holl

Boys 1-Jesse

Philip Kleinschmidt
Maddyx Vondra
Peyton Borgen
Roscoe Stubbs

Boys 2-Dana

Brody Syverson
Charlie Larson
Willem Pesch
Lucas Verdorn

Boys 3-Lance

Maclain Hovland
Grady Larson
Ethan Isaman
Andon Roisum

Boys 4-Jesse

Nicholas Rockstead
Braden Henkes
Hunter Hanson

Boys 5-Staci

Austin Kleinschmidt
Jaxon Dalman
Karston Henkes

Boys 6-Staci

Tate Marich
Jack Welch
Keagan Nettetstad
Thomas Johnson

Adult 1

Sean Fitzsimmons
Terra Fitzsimmons

Adult 2

Staci Allmaras
Tami Hanson

Adult 3

Jill Roisum
Dana Syverson

Adult 4

Jesse Rockstead
Lance Roisum

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. After that, you must go through each station, which will be a table set up in the band room. After you have completed the station, the station leader will highlight your name at that station.

Step One: The Weigh Station (Jesse)

First, you must weigh your suitcase. The suitcase cannot weigh more than 50 pounds and should weigh a bit less, so you have room for souvenirs. If you are overweight, you will need to transfer items to your carryon and you won't be able to buy any souvenirs. Once you have passed the weigh in process, have Jesse highlight your name.

Step Two: The Luggage Wrap Station (Tami)

All instruments and suitcases need to be closed then secured with bungee cords, twine, plastic, or luggage belts with clips. We don't want an instrument case to be jarred open during the bus or plane ride, damaging the instrument, or your suitcase opening damaging your personal items. Therefore, Tami will help you secure your suitcase and instrument case with plastic wrap if you do not have any luggage belts. Once you have passed the luggage wrap process, have Tami highlight your name.

Step Three: The Luggage Tag Station (Dana)

Next, have Dana double check that all items are labeled with a luggage tag containing your name, school, address, and phone number. She will then secure a bright colored group tag to your suitcase and instrument case, so they can easily be identified as part of our group. Your backpack will also need a name tag of some sort. If you don't have one, Dana will provide you with one of these as well. Once you have passed the luggage tag process, have Dana highlight your name.

Step Four: The Nurse Station (Terra)

Next, show our trip nurse Terra, the picture ID you will be using to board the aircraft and where you will be keeping it safe. If there are any medications you would like to have the nurse be in control of, you may do so at this time. If you have any questions for the nurse, please ask at this station. Once you have passed the nurse station process, have Terra highlight your name.

Step Five: The Bank Station (Jill and Staci)

Deposit most of your cash into your private trip bank account kept by our bankers. Any extra money you have paid for the trip will be available for you at the bank including your student account. This will prevent you from losing your money or getting it stolen. Keep enough money to get you through the bus ride, flight, 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. Once you have passed the bank station process, have Jill and Staci highlight your name.

Step Six: Load Bus (Lance)

The bus will be parked at the PRHS bus loading door #8 on the west side of the high school. Your luggage and instrument go under the bus. Your “carry-on” goes with you on the bus. When loading luggage and equipment under the bus, try to keep your stuff together, so the unloading process will go smoother at the airport. 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 chaperones or 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. Lance and the bus driver will help you load.

Step Seven: Board Bus

After you have completed the entire station process and have loaded the bus with your equipment and luggage, you can board the bus. The front 3 rows of seats are reserved for chaperones and tour directors.

Southwest Airlines Carryon Policy

What we refer to as a carryon is what Southwest Airlines calls a “personal item”. You should use your backpack for this. (We are not dealing with what they call a carryon, so please make sure you understand the terminology.)

Your personal item




- ❖ Personal-type items include purses, briefcases, cameras, food containers, or laptops (case included).
- ❖ Your personal item must be stored under the seat in front of you.
- ❖ **A friendly reminder:** If your personal item does not fit under your seat, you will be asked to place it in an overhead bin.



Liquids, aerosol, gels, creams and pastes

Each passenger is permitted to bring one quart-sized bag of liquids aerosol, gels, creams and pastes in your carryon bag and through the TSA security checkpoint. These are limited to 3.4 ounces (100 milliliters) or less per item. During screening, you'll be required to place these items in the small bag separate from your carryon baggage unless you have been selected for TSA PreCheck expedited screening, in which case you may be exempt from removing your liquids during the screening process.

- ❖ Any liquid, aerosol, gel, cream or paste that alarms during screening will require additional screening.
- ❖ Certain items are exempt from the TSA carryon liquid rules including medications and infant and child nourishments.

Southwest Airlines currently prohibits self-defense sprays on any flight regardless if it is checked or carried on. Please see the TSA's web site for a [list of prohibited carryon items](#) .

Packing Checklist

These are some thoughts on what you will need to be packing for the trip. If you don't have some of these items (like black dress shoes, for instance), make sure you purchase them or borrow them from a friend. Thrift stores are also a great place to save money on clothes you won't wear as often. We will NOT be bringing our band tuxedos and dresses.

Your suitcase should contain:

- 6 days worth of comfortable traveling clothes (typical comfortable school clothing). Bring a variety of warmer weather and cooler weather clothes.
- 2 VERY NICE outfits for Broadway performances: 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 dress shoes for our performance at Trump Tower
- Comfortable walking shoes for the days, and dress shoes for the shows
- Socks and undergarments
- Bathroom and cosmetic supplies such as your toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, and shampoo
- Swimsuit, if you would like to swim
- Waterproof jacket

- Plastic bag for dirty clothes
- Your band music folder
- Your music stand
- Remember to leave room for some souvenirs!!

Your carry on should contain:

- Phone
- Headphones
- Wall Chargers and portable power battery supplies to charge your phone when a wall plug is unavailable
- Books (how about a New York City Travel Guide like Fodors!)
- Board games, card decks for the bus and hotel
- 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 and flights.
- Contact supplies and glasses
- Sunglasses
- Beverages and food for bus rides. 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.
- Camera or phone for pictures.
- Small pillow and blanket for the bus if desired
- Sweatshirt
- Your wallet or purse.
- Limited cosmetic supplies if you would like to freshen up at the airport when we get to New York. Remember to read the liquids policy above and to keep them in a ziplock bag.

Your instrument case should contain:

- Your instrument
- Reeds, oils, jellies, etc.

Other Packing Notes

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

Luggage should be limited to:

1 suitcase

1 band instrument

1 carryon bag small enough to fit under or above your bus seat. A backpack is perfect. See specifications under “Southwest Airlines Personal Item Policy above.

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.

Public bathrooms are impossible to find in New York. Normally, to use a bathroom, you must go into a restaurant or store and purchase something. So try to use the bathroom whenever one is available.

Attendance will be taken by bus. The #1 chaperone (Jesse) will start the process by saying “one” into the intercom. The #2 student (Zayla) must then yell “two” as loudly as possible (so the entire bus can hear). Then, the number three student yells “three” and so on. This will conclude with #50 (Mr. Fitz), who can then tell the bus driver to go.

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

If you are planning on using a debit or credit card, be sure you know how to use them. You will also need to notify your bank or credit card company that you will be using the card in NYC and in airports along the way.

Do not bring clothing items with objectionable words or pictures. Follow the school dress code with regards to this.

Remember, we are together a lot. If you are feeling sociable, socialize with your friends and make some new ones. If not, put on some headphones and “escape” for a while. It is always important, however, to be mindful of others. Therefore, we try to keep the noise to a minimum, and obnoxious and annoying behavior should be left behind.

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!

All students are required to attend breakfast. A full buffet breakfast will be served in the hotel each morning. These all-you-can-eat meals are included in your trip payment. You may also be able to grab some items “to go” for the bus ride.

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.

Never go anywhere by yourself!! Always travel in groups of 3 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. Anxiety and bus sickness are common occurrences. Sometimes, you may just need to come to the front of the bus to look forwards. Anytime you would like to exchange seats with any of the chaperones, just ask.

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.

Plan Ahead. Review your 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.'

Spending and Meal Money

We estimate approximately \$20 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 you will have to pay for. See the daily itinerary for details on which meals are included and the chart below listing the meals per day that are not included in the package price.

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 haggling 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.

Listed here are the 9 meals that are not included in the trip package.

Monday, March 24	Breakfast, Lunch
Tuesday, March 25	Lunch, Supper
Wednesday, March 26	Supper
Thursday, March 27	Lunch
Friday, March 28	Supper
Saturday, March 29	Lunch, Supper

If we estimate approximately \$20 per meal, \$180 should cover the meals for the entire trip. However, some students eat more than others and could vary

well pay \$50 for a large steak dinner. Therefore, it is recommended that each student bring a minimum of \$180 for meal money. It is better to have too much than not enough. And any money not spent on meals could be used for souvenirs and snacks.

Besides the meals listed above, everything else is included in the cost of the trip, except personal snacks and personal souvenirs. If a student were to purchase no snacks or souvenirs, no additional money would be required. In past years, some students spent over \$600 on souvenirs alone, while others spent next to nothing. That is why we recommend bringing a credit or debit card for these purchases, as it is difficult to recommend a certain amount for spending. Perhaps start with \$150 in mind for non-meal souvenirs and snack spending money, and those students who wish to spend more or less can adjust accordingly.

Recommended meal money=\$180

Recommended spending money=\$150

Total recommended spending money=\$330

Rules and General Guidelines for Classy Travelers

Shower every day in either the morning or evening, or both. Please, don't be the stinky one!

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 2 other students at all times (groups of 3). 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 any time 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. Try to catch up on sleep on our trips to and from the hotel.

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 quiet, 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.

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.

Keep your "stuff" organized. It is very easy for a small hotel room to get trashed very quickly with 4 people in it. If one of your roommates needs to clean up, kindly ask them to do so to keep your room as clean and organized as possible. Safeguard and keep track of all personal belongings and valuables.

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

The Bank

Jill and Staci 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 all your money or getting it stolen. During your initial deposit in the bank room at the bank station, you will want to keep enough money to get you through the first day in NYC. (Two meals plus snacks and souvenirs.)

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 to the bank after breakfast.

Most students will bring some cash and a credit or debit card. **It is very important to contact your bank or card provider to tell them you will be leaving Minnesota and heading to Minneapolis, St. Louis, New York, and Chicago, with details of where we will be and when. Otherwise, when they see charging activity outside of Minnesota, they may deactivate the card.**

Important Addresses and Phone Numbers

Group Travel Agency:

Leisure Time Tours

Tammy Jo Sutton

763-412-6545

tammyjo@leisuretours.org

Sean Fitzsimmons Cell Phone:

218-770-8321

sfitzsim@vikes.us

Terra Fitzsimmons Cell Phone:

701-212-8698

tfitzsim@vikes.us

La Quinta Inn and Suites Clifton, New Jersey

265 Route 3 E, Clifton, NJ, 07014

973-778-6500

Itinerary

Meals “on your own” are not included in the trip price. Students should use their cash or card spending money for these meals. Tipping at appropriate restaurants is expected.

Meals “included” are included in the trip price, already paid for, and will require no additional student spending money. No tips are expected or necessary for these meals.

Sunday, March 23rd

10:00 pm All students must take one last home shower. Everyone should begin the trip smelling wonderfully fresh! If you think you don't need to do this, YOU might be the stinky kid!!

11:00 pm Chaperones arrive

11:30 pm Students arrive at Pelican Rapids High School via front door #1 or library door #8. Proceed to band room with suitcase, instrument, and carry-on. Follow instructions for “Departure” (above) by getting your name highlighted at all the stations. Once all students have boarded the buses, we will depart. I am guessing this will be around 12:30 am.

Monday, March 24th

12:30 am Depart for Minneapolis-St. Paul Hubert Humphrey Airport.

4:00 am Arrive at Minneapolis-St. Paul Hubert Humphrey Airport. Meet Karen and Jen, our tour managers, who will assist us with check in and fly with us to NYC. From this point on, until we return to Pelican Rapids, you must never go anywhere unless you are in groups of 3 or more.

6:30 am Depart on Flight WN4775 for St. Louis

8:10 am Arrive in St. Louis. Pick up lunch during this layover to bring on next flight.

9:55 am Depart on Flight WN2599 for New York City-LaGuardia Airport.

1:15 pm Arrive at New York City-LaGuardia Airport. Claim luggage and instruments, meet our bus driver and bus, and depart.

3:00 pm Pick up our New York City Guide at 51st and Broadway who will take us on a not-so-ordinary NYC City Tour. Not only will we see many of the highlights that make NYC special, but the guide will show us over 40 NYC locations featured in countless TV shows and movies. A great way to see the city! (On and off bus) Drop off guides at 1650 Broadway.

4:45 pm Depart for Chelsea Pier 61.

5:30 pm Board DJ Dinner Cruise Hudson and East River (under Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges and up close to Statue of Liberty). Dinner Included

8:30 pm Depart for our hotel and check in.

Chaperones will issue keys to room captains, who will issue keys to the rest of the students. Please remember that we are a bunch of high school students arriving past the bedtime of many people who have to get up early for work. We want to be as silent and stealthy as possible. When we are in the hotel lobby and elevator areas, we should only talk in a whisper. I would like the manager of the hotel to tell me in the morning that you were the quietest, most well-behaved, well-mannered group he has ever had stay at the hotel.

Tuesday, March 25th

7:30 am Breakfast at hotel Included

8:30 am Depart for Battery Park, NYC.

9:15 am Arrive for 9:30 am check in time for departure via ferry to Statue of Liberty (pedestal entrance included - Not timed, access anytime prior to 3:30 pm). \$20 meal stipend provided for lunch

TBD Line up to depart on Ferry for Ellis Island.

TBD Line up to depart on Ferry for Battery Park.

Depart to see “The Bull” (Federal Building, Financial District and New York Stock Exchange, Wall Street) and Trinity Church.

TBD Meet our coach and depart to Times Square for dinner on your own.

6:45 pm Meet and walk to Producer’s Club, 358 W 44th Street.

7:30 pm Eight Is Never Enough Improv Show

9:00 pm Depart for hotel.

Wednesday, March 26th

7:00 am Breakfast at hotel Included

8:00 am Depart for walk through Central Park – Explore Central Park walking by Poets Walk, Bethesda Fountain, Boat House, Sheeps Meadow, Lower Central Park Band Shell and Strawberry Field.

10:30 am Walk to Trump Tower to prepare for band performance.

11:30 am Pelican Rapids High School Band Performance at Trump Tower.

Lunch at Trump Tower Included

2:00 pm Walk down 5th Ave. to Rockefeller Center.

3:00 pm Group 1 Line up for 3:20 pm NBC Studio Tour (20 people)

3:20 pm Group 2 Line up for 3:40 pm NBC Studio Tour (20 people)

3:40 pm Group 3 Line up for 4:00 pm NBC Studio Tour (10 people)

Depart for free time and dinner on your own in Times Square.

6:15 pm Meet for 7 pm Broadway Show – The Great Gatsby

9:45 pm Return to hotel after show.

Thursday, March 27th

8:00 am Breakfast at hotel Included

9:00 am Depart for 911 Memorial Museum for your Guided Tour.

10:00 am Group 1 Line up for 10:30 am guided tour (20 people 1-hr tour)

10:30 am Group 2 Line up for 11:00 am guided tour (20 people 1-hr tour)

11:30 am Group 3 Line up for 12:00 am guided tour (10 people 1-hr tour)

Lunch in 911 Memorial area on your own.

1:45 pm Meet in front of the One World Trade Center - One World Observatory for 2 pm entrance.

3:00 pm Depart for free time for Shopping in Chinatown & Little Italy.

4:30 pm Authentic Italian Dinner in Little Italy Included

5:45 pm Change into Broadway clothes

6:30 pm Arrive for 7pm Broadway Show – Moulin Rouge

10:00 pm Depart for hotel.

Friday, March 28th

7:30 am Breakfast at hotel Included

8:30 am Depart for 9:30 am Broadway Meet the Artist Q & A Workshop with Neil Haskell. Neil Haskell has performed with 7 different Broadway shows and on TV in So You Think You Can Dance, Glee, The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmitt and others.

10:45 am Depart for Ellen's Stardust.

11:15 am Arrive for 11:30 am lunch at Ellen's Stardust Diner. Included

12:45 pm Depart for a walk on the NYC Highline and a visit to the Little Island Park!

3:30 pm Change into Broadway Clothes Depart for Times Square for dinner on your own.

6:30 pm Meet at theater for 7pm Broadway Show – Hamilton

10:00 pm Walk to Duffy Square between 46th & 47th to take a Group Picture in Times Square.

10:30 pm Depart for hotel following picture.

Saturday, March 29th

7:30 am Breakfast at hotel Included

8:30 am Load luggage and check out.

9:00 am Depart to check out Grand Central Station.

11:00 am Depart to walk across Brooklyn Bridge.

12:30 pm Depart to New York Airport (LGA).

1:00 pm Arrive at LaGuardia Airport and check in. Lunch at airport on your own.

4:10 pm Depart on Flight WN3578 for Chicago Midway.

5:40 pm Arrive in Chicago. Dinner on your own.

7:30 pm Depart on Flight WN447 for Minneapolis

9:00 pm Arrive in Minneapolis.

Claim Luggage and Instruments. Load coach and depart for Pelican Rapids HS.

1:00 am Saturday night/Sunday morning - Welcome Home!

General Information about some of the sites we will be visiting

One World Trade Center

One World Trade Center, also known as the Freedom Tower, is the main building of the rebuilt World Trade Center complex in Lower Manhattan, New York City. One WTC is the tallest building in the United States, the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere, and the sixth-tallest in the world. The super tall structure has the same name as the North Tower of the original World Trade Center, which was destroyed in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The new skyscraper stands on the northwest corner of the 16-acre World Trade Center site, on the site of the original 6 World Trade Center.

The building's architect is David Childs, who also designed the Burj Khalifa in Dubai and the Willis Tower in Chicago. The construction of below-ground utility relocations, footings, and foundations for the new building began on April 27, 2006. One World Trade Center became the tallest structure in New York City on April 30, 2012, when it surpassed the height of the Empire State Building. The tower's steel structure was topped out on August 30, 2012. On May 10, 2013, the final component of the skyscraper's spire was installed, making the building, including its spire, reach a total height of 1,776 feet. Its height in feet is a deliberate reference to the year when the United States Declaration of Independence was signed. The building opened on November 3, 2014; the One World Observatory opened on May 29, 2015.^[5]

On March 26, 2009, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey confirmed that the building would be officially known by its legal name of "One World Trade Center", rather than its colloquial name of "Freedom Tower". The building is 104 standard floors high, but the tower has only 94 actual stories.

Rockefeller Center

Rockefeller Center is an art deco marvel consisting of 19 commercial buildings covering 11 acres in midtown Manhattan with a sunken plaza for

outdoor dining, ice skating in the famous rink in the winter, and an underground shopping center concourse. It is the home of the NBC building: 30 Rockefeller Plaza, or "30 Rock".

NBC Studios

NBC Studios are located in the historic 30 Rockefeller Plaza. The first NBC Radio City Studios began operating in the early 1930s. Tours of the studios began in 1933, but are currently suspended. Because of the preponderance of radio studios, that section of the Rockefeller Center complex became known as Radio City (and gave its name to Radio City Music Hall). Even into the present decade, tickets for shows based at 30 Rock bear the legend "Radio City". The building houses the NBC television network headquarters. Although we will not be able to take the tour this year, we will be able to visit the gift shop and explore the area.

St. Patrick's Cathedral

The amazing and beautiful seat of the Roman Catholic archbishop of New York is an example of the decorated and geometric style of Gothic ecclesiastical architecture which prevailed in Europe from 1275-1400. Students' first entrance into this magnificent and immense Cathedral is breathtaking and memorable

9/11 Museum and St. Paul's Chapel

Located directly across from the World Trade Center site, St. Paul's Chapel was home to an extraordinary eight month volunteer relief effort after the terrorist attacks. A memorial commemorating the tragic event is here. The 9/11 memorial is also here, with its weeping pools and commemorations of the day's tragic events. Experience below the ground, the 9/11 Memorial Museum. "Never forget" was the heartfelt refrain after the World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001. The National September 11 Memorial Museum is dedicated to those who lost their lives, and to ensure, once again, that the world will "never forget." We will take a guided tour of the memorial.

Times Square

Times Square is the site of the annual New Year's Eve ball drop. On December 31, 1907, a ball signifying New Year's Day was first dropped at Times Square, and the Square has held the main New Year's celebration in New York City ever since. The theaters of Broadway and the huge number of animated neon and LED signs have long made them one of New York's iconic images, and a symbol of the intensely urban aspects of Manhattan. Times Square is the only neighborhood with zoning ordinances requiring building owners to display brightly illuminated signs. The density of illuminated signs in Times Square now rivals that of Las Vegas. Officially, signs in Times Square are called "spectaculars", and the largest of them are called "jumbotrons". Experience the bright lights of the big city and find out first hand why it has been dubbed "The Great White Way". We will get a formal, professional picture of the band on the red steps here. Times Square serves as a central location to much of what we will do in NYC.

Central Park

This idyllic haven is the city's most cinematic public playground, a status born out of use as a backdrop for countless films, television shows, ad campaigns and photo shoots. Central Park is a large public, urban park that occupies over a square mile in the heart of Manhattan. It is host to approximately twenty five million visitors each year.

Fifth Avenue

Fifth Avenue is a major thoroughfare in the center of the borough of Manhattan and is one of the premier shopping streets in the world. Fifth Avenue serves as a symbol of wealthy New York and is consistently ranked as one of the most expensive streets in the world.

Evening Dinner Cruise

Here we will board a dinner boat which will take us on a guided tour of the city via its surrounding rivers, the East and the Hudson. The trip will take you

under the major bridges and out to the Statue of Liberty for some great photo opportunities of these things plus some great views of the city at night.

Three Broadway Shows

Really, the main reason we travel to New York is to see the greatest live musical theater in the world. Broadway theater, commonly called simply “Broadway”, is associated with the 40 large professional theaters with 500 seats or more located in the Theater District, Broadway theater is usually considered to represent the highest level of commercial theater in the English-speaking world. The shows we will see are The Great Gatsby, Moulin Rouge, and Hamilton.

Trump Tower

Trump Tower is a 58-story mixed-use skyscraper located on Fifth Avenue. Trump Tower serves as the headquarters for The Trump Organization and houses the primary penthouse condominium residence of Donald Trump and his family. We will perform a band concert in the indoor atrium of Trump Tower and eat lunch there. Sometimes President Trump and family members attend these concerts!

Ellen's Stardust

Ellen's Stardust Diner is a retro 1950s theme restaurant located in the Theater District. The Diner is regarded as one of the best theme restaurants in New York owing to its incredibly talented singing wait staff. Many of them are “between jobs” Broadway performers or “up-and-coming” Broadway performers. Former Ellen's staff members have been known to star in almost every Broadway and major off-Broadway musical in New York. We will eat and they will sing virtually anything we ask them too!!

Grand Central Station Terminal

Grand Central Terminal, also referred to as Grand Central Station or simply as Grand Central, is a commuter, rapid transit railroad terminal in Midtown Manhattan. Built by and named for the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad in the heyday of American long-distance passenger rail travel, it covers 48 acres and has 44 underground levels, more than any other railroad station in the world. Its level platforms, all below ground, serve over 114 tracks. Grand Central Terminal has intricate designs both on its inside and outside. In addition, it contains a vast interior main concourse featured in many films.

Manhattan Bus Tour

This tour travels through much of Manhattan while highlighting the specific TV and movie locations that are the tour's focus. As a result, you will find this tour an ideal way to tour the city and a great way to start the trip. You will be visiting neighborhoods such as Greenwich Village, Chelsea, SoHo, TriBeCa, and many more.

Brooklyn Bridge

The Brooklyn Bridge is a hybrid cable-stayed/suspension bridge in New York City and is one of the oldest bridges of either type in the United States. Completed in 1883, it connects the boroughs of Manhattan and Brooklyn by spanning the East River. It has a main span of 1,595.5 feet, was the first steel-wire suspension bridge constructed and is probably the most recognized bridge in New York. Since its opening, it has become an icon of New York City and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1964 and a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark in 1972.

Famous Neighborhoods:

Chinatown

Chinatown is a neighborhood in Lower Manhattan bordering the Lower East Side, and Little Italy. Chinatown is home to the largest enclave of Chinese people in the Western Hemisphere. With an estimated population of 90,000 to 100,000 people, Manhattan's Chinatown is also one of the oldest Chinese ethnic enclaves. Chinese green grocers and fishmongers and jewelers are

clustered around Mott Street, Mulberry Street, Canal Street and all along East Broadway. West of Broadway (especially on the North side), is filled with street vendors selling knock-off brands of perfumes, watches, and handbags, and many other items. It is tradition that each member of the band learn to barter, and successfully negotiate the price of a small purchase in Chinatown or Little Italy.

Little Italy

Bordering Chinatown is Little Italy, although much smaller, with only 10,000 people in this neighborhood and a history full of mob bosses and crime intrigue. The band will meet the owner of a fine restaurant and dine together there on authentic Italian cuisine, with stories from anything like bartering tips to John Gotti or the Godfather films.

Greenwich Village, East Village, Chelsea, The Financial District and many more famous neighborhoods will also be explored.

High Line

The High Line is a 1.45-mile-long elevated linear park, green way and rail trail created on a former New York Central Railroad. The abandoned spur has been redesigned as a "living system" drawing from multiple disciplines which include landscape architecture, urban design, and ecology. Since opening in 2009, the High Line has become an icon of contemporary landscape architecture.

Eight is Never Enough Comedy Club

Come be a part of the show as the cast of Eight is Never Enough delivers hilarious interactive musical comedy, original skits and songs, improvised on the spot based on audience suggestions and participation. No two shows are ever the same.

Chaperone Responsibilities

A trip of this size can only run successfully if some very decent and hard working parent chaperones are involved.

Perhaps the most important task a chaperone has is being able to maintain a positive, outgoing, and upbeat attitude during every moment of the trip, even though we will be entirely exhausted. The trip moves very fast, with an unbelievable amount of walking and less sleep than we definitely require. This can be an overwhelming job, and we need people who are positive throughout it all.

The task of a chaperone is a busy and important one. Your main responsibility is to help the students have a comfortable, enjoyable, and safe trip.

Communicate with students constantly and make sure they understand all instructions. You may also wish to learn a bit about what we will be seeing to help point out interesting things to the students.

Get to know the students, take an active interest in their well-being, and let them know that you are there for them if they need you for anything. If there are disciplinary issues, we will deal with them as a group.

Once checked in at the hotel, check to see your specific students are situated properly and comfortably. Report any rooming problems to the director. You will be in charge of 2 rooms and those students will be yours throughout the trip, even when we are not in the hotel. However, students are generally allowed to move about the city in small areas at a time in groups of 3 or more without chaperones, so you won't be directly with them during every moment of the trip.

Check rooms at curfew times and periodically after curfew. This is a good time to talk with your students about the day, any problems or things that may have come up, or really anything at all that the kids would like to discuss with you. Let Mr. Fitzsimmons know immediately if there are any problems and he will help. Noise rules must be enforced, especially after hours. If any

rule violations are suspected we have the responsibility to enter the hotel room without exception. We will check all rooms, closets, drawers, suitcases, anything the situation warrants. Chaperones, Mr. Fitzsimmons, and tour directors will get together if this were to occur.

Other responsibilities are as follows. Chaperones assist with taking roll each time we get on the buses. Do not let the bus leave until this task is done. If a serious illness or misconduct occurs, it might require you to miss the day's activities. Check all rooms in the mornings to make sure all students are up and moving. Know the daily schedule and when and where students are to be at all times. Keep your itinerary with you at all times. Each evening at a specified time and place, chaperones will meet to discuss the current and next day's activities to sort out details and to get detailed information to the students.

As you can see, the chaperones must stay up later and get up earlier than the students, who themselves will be very exhausted at times during this trip. It is far more excruciating than most people imagine and through it all, every minute, we must remain positive, upbeat, and be very proactive about encouraging that kind of attitude and behavior in the kids.

Finally, make sure you take some time for yourself to see all the sites and to take it all in. And ENJOY!! These are amazing kids, and we will have an amazing time.