

Timberlane Regional School District	Policy Code: IJOA
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STUDENT TRIPS

Field trips designed to stimulate student interest and inquiry and provide opportunities for social growth and development are considered appropriate extensions of the classroom. To the extent that they provide the most effective means for accomplishing general curriculum objectives of the school, the building Principal may authorize field trips.

To be educationally beneficial, a field trip requires thoughtful selection, careful advance preparation of the class, and opportunities for pupils to assimilate the experience during and at the conclusion of the trip. To this end, teachers and principals will be expected to consider the following factors in selection of field trips:

- (a) value of the activity to the particular class group or class groups;
- (b) relationship of the field trip activity to a particular aspect of classroom instruction;
- (c) suitability of the activity and distance traveled to the age level;
- (d) mode and availability of transportation; and
- (e) cost.

Chaperons for field trips will be assigned at the discretion of the Principal according to the type of trip involved.

Sanctioning Student Trips

- A. School-sponsored trips are defined as student trips that have been organized, scheduled or otherwise promoted by the School Board, Superintendent of Schools, or building Principal. Examples would be athletic trips, band trips, class trips, etc. Only those trips that are deemed to have significant educational value and that are directly related to existing educational programs shall be sponsored. Any trip involving travel of over 300 miles, overnight travel, or a overnight trip requiring a student's absence from the school building during normal school hours shall require the prior approval of the School Board. Overnight trips and/or trips over 300 miles that are held annually shall require the approval of the Superintendent rather than the school board.
- B. School related trips are defined as student trips organized; scheduled, or sponsored by a school club or other organization connected with the school whose advisor is salaried by the District or whose advisor has been appointed by the school administration. Only those trips directly related to existing educational programs shall be sponsored. Any trip involving fund-raising and/or a student's absence from

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the school building during normal school hours shall require the prior approval of the School Board. The building Principal or Superintendent of Schools, who may consult the Board or request general Board approval for a series of field trips or general type of field trip, may approve other school-sponsored trips.

- C. Any other trips, including those that may involve participation of students from the Timberlane Regional School District or employees of the Timberlane Regional School District that are not explicitly approved by the School Board, the Superintendent of Schools, or the building Principal in accordance with the above procedures, are not school-sponsored or school-related trips and shall not be represented as such. Planning for, recruitment of participants for, or any other activity related to such trips shall not take place within the schools of the District or utilize District facilities unless approved by the Principal. It is the obligation of the planners of such trips to ensure that any literature about such trips, announcements of such trips, or recruiting materials for participants in such trips shall make it clear to parents and guardians, and students that the trip is being organized and sponsored by a private individual or group and not by the Timberlane Regional School District. Parents, guardians, and students must be told explicitly that the District accepts no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for the trip.

Financing Student Trips

- A. The cost of school-sponsored trips shall be the responsibility of the School District and will be provided for in the regular annual budgetary process. In cases where funds are limited, the school administration may assess a fee to participating students in order to recover costs or may permit fund-raising by the student organization involved.
- B. The cost of school-related trips shall be the responsibility of the sponsoring club and/or organization. The process by which funds are raised and expended must be approved in advance by the building Principal and/or Superintendent of Schools.
- C. Solicitation is prohibited within the Timberlane Regional School District facilities or during regular school hours by Timberlane employees or students for funds for any but school-sponsored or school-related trips for which fund-raising is explicitly approved in accordance with this policy.