

Middle School Spring Trip
Mackinac Island here we come!

Dear Families,

The final payment for the middle school spring trip to Mackinac Island will be due on **April 14th**. Please turn in a check for \$150.00, made out to The Pathfinder School to the front office along with an envelope containing **3 \$10.00 bills or 1 \$20 and a \$10.** The cash will be used by your student for the meal we will be eating on the Island and one on the way home in Petoskey. The chaperones will hang on to this money and pass it out when the time comes to eat.

Our annual Middle School Spring trip is scheduled for **May 18th, 19th, and 20th**. The **tentative** plan is:

Mackinac Island Schedule

Wednesday, May 18

8:30 am leave school on bus

10:30 am - bag lunch near Petoskey at a park

12:30pm – board Shepler’s Ferry out of Mackinaw City

1:30 pm – 3:00 – Carriage tour

3:30pm - Check in, games on the lawn and dinner at Mission Point

DINNER at 4:30

5:45pm – meet at Marquette Park for Muster Program

6:00-9:00pm - at the Fort for Muster Program organized by State Park People

9:00-10:00 pm – Games on lawn at Mission Point

10:00 - 10:30 – **get ready for bed and lights out** 😊

Thursday May 19

8:00am breakfast at Hotel

9:00 – 10:00 – Legends of Mackinac prepare for skit to be acted out at site.

10:00 – 11:30 – hike and acting out of legends

11:30 – 12:00 – lunch at Turtle Park – Laura Eisler will bring boxed lunches packed by hotel.

12:00- 2:00 - Written reflection on skits performed and Cemetery scavenger hunt. We will also walk back to hotel and gather what is needed for the evening.

2:30-4:00 – Tour Butterfly house. Leave for dinner downtown. **WHEN YOU LEAVE THE HOTEL YOU WILL NOT BE RETURNING AFTER DINNER**

4:00 – 6:00pm dinner out on their own with freetime built in. See list of restaurants.

6:00 – 7:00 gather in Marquette Park to regroup

7:00 – 8:30 Haunts of Mackinac downtown this is an organized tour provided by a guide

8:30-9:30pm – chill on lawn, football, Frisbee, soccer

9:30- 10:00pm – get ready for bed wind down

Friday May 10

8:00 am breakfast

9:00am put bags outside door **Bag sweep**

9:30-10:30 bikes or games

11:00- AM Depart Island on Shepler Ferry to Mac City

12:00 – 1:00pm ish – lunch in Petoskey

2:30pm arrive back at school

You may notice that we are not biking on the Island this year. Several students have not had the opportunity to learn to ride or don't feel comfortable riding on the Island in a big group. There may be some time on Friday morning for those who want to bike. If this is the case they must **bring a helmet.** The hotel has bikes for rent for \$5.00/hour.

The Mackinac Island trip has always been a **non-electronic event.** We do not allow **cell phones,** Ipods, tablets etc. This has always, initially, caused some consternation with the students. However, it has been our experience that the students become much more engaged with their surroundings, friends, and the magic that is Mackinac. All of the teachers will have smartphones available to take pictures, text highlights to school and for parents to check in **IF NEED BE.** I will create a Google folder to be shared with all students and parents for pictures. If your student feels he or she must have a phone for pictures it will be with his or her teacher and given out for pictures only. These are the same rules we have at school. In this selfie obsessed / social media world we live in today, this may be the last time for some of these students to truly unplug!

Thanks for your support!
Shane

The chaperones for the trip are Shane, Duncan, Mrs. Pittinos and Mr. Tim.

The Island is a truly magical place and I am excited to share it with your students.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,
Shane

